

Gettysburg College
Musselman
Library
special collections

Guide to MS-165:
Papers of Jen Bryant, Class of 1982



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections and College Archives

Processed by: Jenna Fleming, Class of 2016
June 2014

Updated by: Autumn Menzock, Class of 2023
Fortenbaugh Intern Spring 2022
April 2022

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Size

14 boxes, 16 cubic feet

Location

Special Collections

Dates

Inclusive: 1991-2022

Provenance

The collection was donated to Special Collections by Jen Bryant through multiple accessions since 2005.

Biographical Note

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.

Complete List of Works 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)
- Earth Keepers – Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Voice of the Everglades (1992)
- Earth Keepers – Margaret Murie: A Wilderness Life (1993)
- Birds of a Feather (1993)
- Louis Braille: Teacher of the Blind (1994)
- Great Achievers – Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1995)
- Lucretia Mott: A Guiding Light (1996)
- Men of Spirit – Thomas Merton: Poet, Prophet, Priest (1997)
- Into Enchanted Woods (2001)
- The Trial (2004)
- Georgia’s Bones (2005)
- Rush Hour: Face (2005)
- The Whole Measure: Poetry for Adults (2006)
- Music for the End of Time (2005)
- Call Me Marianne (2006)
- Pieces of Georgia (2006)
- A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams (2008)
- Abe’s Fish: A Boyhood Tale of Abraham Lincoln (2009)
- Ringside, 1925: Views From the Scopes Trial (2009)
- Kaleidoscope Eyes (2010)
- The Fortune of Carmen Navarro (2011)
- Poetry Friday Anthology (2012)
- A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin (2013)
- The Poetry Friday Anthology for Middle School (2013)
- The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus (2014)
- Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille (2016)
- You Just Wait: A Poetry Friday Power Book for Tweens and Teens (2016)
- One Minute Till Bedtime: 60-Second Poems to Send You Off to Sleep (2016)
- Feed Your Mind: A Story of August Wilson (2019)
- Above the Rim: How Elgin Baylor Changed Basketball (2020)
- Fall Down Seven Times and Stand Up Eight: Patsy Takemoto Mink and the Fight for Title IX (2022)

Scope and Content Note

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 publication, with additional donations anticipated from the author.

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. Personal Materials, 2. Professional Activities, and 3. Published Works. This collection's boxes are numbered within each series to allow for anticipated additional donations (designated PM, PA, PW before the box number and folder number).

Series 1: 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.

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: Published Works

This series includes materials related to the writing, editing, and publishing of Jen Bryant's books and poetry. Research materials, notes, drafts, manuscripts, proofs, and correspondence connected to her published works are found in this series. The series is arranged in chronological order and currently covers published materials from the *Working Moms* series, published in 1991 to Bryant's most recent publication, with gaps.

Box List

Series 1: Personal Materials

PM Box 1

PM 1-1	Personal Materials: Personal Correspondence
PM 1-2	Personal Materials: Thank-you Notes from Schools (3 folders)
PM 1-3	Personal Materials: Author Biography
PM 1-4	Personal Materials: Gettysburg College Alumni Activities
PM 1-5	Personal Materials: Placemats from School Visit (Oversize Box)
PM 1-6	Personal Materials: Letters from Students- Young Writers Program at West Chester, 1995
PM 1-7	Personal Materials: Beaver College- Herald Alumni Magazine Article, Fall 1999
PM 1-8	Personal Materials: Penn State Abington- Guest Lecture, 1999
PM 1-9	Personal Materials: Gettysburg College Correspondence- Miscellaneous
PM 1-10	Personal Materials: Miscellaneous Personal Correspondence with Other Poets, Writers, etc.
PM 1-11	Personal Materials: Mussleman Library Newsletter- Miscellaneous Clippings
PM 1-12	Personal Materials: Books Signed to Jen Bryant from author Lloyd Alexander

Series 2: Professional Activities

PA Box 1

Small Box	Professional Activities: The Right Word Promotional Materials (1 box)
Small Box	Professional Activities: Lucretia Mott Presentation Slides (2 boxes)
PA 1-1	Professional Activities: West Chester University Teaching Application
PA 1-2	Professional Activities: "The Snake" (The Good Snake) Manuscript and Research
PA 1-3	Professional Activities: Miscellaneous Notes
PA 1-4	Professional Activities: Events and Appearances (2 Folders)
PA 1-5	Professional Activities: National Council of Teachers of English Conventions, 2008 – 2010 (2 folders)
PA 1-6	Professional Activities: Book Lists and Publishers' Catalogues (2 folders)
PA 1-7	Professional Activities: Awards and Honors
PA 1-8	Professional Activities: Publicity
PA 1-9	Professional Activities: Highlights for Children, September 2003
PA 1-10	Professional Activities: Signal Journal, Fall 2010/Winter 2011
PA 1-11	Professional Activities: Lucretia Mott Presentation
PA 1-12	Professional Activities: Meet the Author Poster (Oversize Box)
PA 1-13	Professional Activities: Thank-you gift from 2009 Caldecott Committee (Oversize Box)
PA 1-14	Professional Activities: Bread Loaf Writer's Conference
PA 1-15	Professional Activities: Bread Loaf Workshops in Poetry
PA 1-16	Professional Activities: Rejection Letters- Horace Pippin and Call Me Marianne
PA 1-17	Professional Activities: Young Writer's Program- West Chester University
PA 1-18	Professional Activities: Rizzoli Submissions and Info
PA 1-19	Professional Activities: Substitute Teaching Information
PA 1-20	Professional Activities: Writers and Poets- Correspondence
PA 1-21	Professional Activities: Letter of Recommendation and Application for Keplinger

PA 1-22	Professional Activities: Alyssa Eisner Henkin- Trident Media Group
PA 1-23	Professional Activities: Ferdman's Teen Poetry Anthology
PA 1-24	Professional Activities: Books for Breakfast, 2014
PA 1-25	Professional Activities: Sibert Medal Speeches, 2015

PA Box 2

PA 2-1	Professional Activities: Abe's Fish – PR and Promotional Reviews
PA 2-2	Professional Activities: Abe's Fish- Events and Miscellaneous Material
PA 2-3	Professional Activities: Newman College- Teaching, 2000
PA 2-4	Professional Activities: ALA – Chicago, 2009
PA 2-5	Professional Activities: Correspondence and Submission Records (2 Folders)
PA 2-6	Professional Activities: ALA Itinerary, San Francisco, 2015
PA 2-7	Professional Activities: ALA Materials, San Francisco, 2015 (2 Folders)
PA 2-8	Professional Activities: Caldecott Honor Book Event Material
PA 2-9	Professional Activities: NCTE Orbis Pictus Awards, 2014
PA 2-10	Professional Activities: Pippin Art and Writing Program, 2015
PA 2-11	Professional Activities: East Wood Elementary School Visit, 2016
PA 2-12	Professional Activities: Books for Breakfast Event, 2014
PA 2-13	Professional Activities: NCTE Panel, 2015
PA 2-14	Professional Activities: Philadelphia Museum of Art Presentation
PA 2-15	Professional Activities: Miscellaneous Professional Material
PA 2-16	Professional Activities: Princeton Children's Book Festival
PA 2-17	Professional Activities: Orbis Pictus Award Correspondence
PA 2-18	Professional Activities: Newberry Caldecott Award Banquet Guide
PA 2-19	Professional Activities: Award Materials
PA 2-20	Professional Activities: The Horn Magazine

Series 3: Published Works

PW Box 1

PW 1-1	Working Moms: Original Proposal
PW 1-2	Working Moms: Research and Drafts (2 folders)
PW 1-3	Working Moms: Carol Thomas-Weaver
PW 1-4	Working Moms: Sharon Oehler
PW 1-5	Working Moms: Jane Sayler
PW 1-6	Working Moms: Karen Strange – Unpublished
PW 1-7	Working Moms: Ubel Velez
PW 1-8	Working Moms: Ubel Velez Typed Draft
PW 1-9	Working Moms: Zoe McCully
PW 1-10	Working Moms: Anne Abrams
PW 1-11	Working Moms: Master Page Proofs
PW 1-12	Hand Crafted: Poetry Publication
PW 1-13	Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Research
PW 1-14	Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Notes and Drafts (2 folders)

PW Box 2

PW 2-1	Murie: Outline, Timeline, Bibliography
PW 2-2	Murie: Research (3 Folders)
PW 2-3	Murie: Rough Drafts
PW 2-4	Murie: Drafts
PW 2-5	Murie: 1 st Final Draft
PW 2-6	Lucretia Mott: Research and Outline
PW 2-7	Lucretia Mott: Handwritten Drafts (2 Folders)
PW 2-8	Lucretia Mott: Typed Drafts (6 folders)

PW Box 3

PW 3-1	Lucretia Mott: Revisions (5 folders)
PW 3-2	Lucretia Mott: Final Published Copy
PW 3-3	Northeast Corridor, Issue 7, 2000
PW 3-4	U.S. 1 Worksheets: U.S. 1 Poets' Cooperative- Princeton, New Jersey
PW 3-5	Into Enchanted Woods: Illustration
PW 3-6	American Literary Review, Fall 2001
PW 3-7	Image, Spring 2001
PW 3-8	Schuylkill Valley Journal of the Arts, Fall 2003
PW 3-9	The Trial: Research
PW 3-10	The Trial: Notes
PW 3-11	The Trial: Draft Dated August 31, 2002
PW 3-12	The Trial: Proofread Manuscript Dated February 25, 2003
PW 3-13	The Trial: Copyedited Manuscript Dated June 6, 2003
PW 3-14	The Trial: Proofread Galley Copy Dated August 26, 2003 (2 folders)
PW 3-15	The Trial: Proofread Galley Copy Dated October 3, 2003 (2 folders)

PW Box 4

PW 4-1	The Trial: Edited Galley Copy Dated November 18, 2003 (2 folders)
PW 4-2	The Trial: Teacher's Guide and Student Responses
PW 4-3	The Trial: Advance Galley Copy and Publisher's Postcard
PW 4-4	The Trial: Correspondence and Publication Information
PW 4-5	The Trial: Research, Correspondence, and Early Drafts
PW 4-6	The Trial: Newseum Visit Research
PW 4-7	The Trial: Research
PW 4-8	The Trial: Early Poem Drafts and Character Sketches
PW 4-9	The Trial: Early Final Draft
PW 4-10	Georgia's Bones: Research, Notes, and Drafts
PW 4-11	Georgia's Bones: Correspondence
PW 4-12	Georgia's Bones: Publication Information and Reviews
PW 4-13	Music for the End of Time: Research
PW 4-14	Music for the End of Time: Notes and Drafts
PW 4-15	Music for the End of Time: Correspondence
PW 4-16	Music for the End of Time: Publication Information, Honors, and Reviews

PW 4-17	Music for the End of Time: Fully Illustrated Layout Pages (Oversize Box)
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PW Box 5

PW 5-1	Call Me Marianne: Copy
PW 5-2	Call Me Marianne: Research
PW 5-3	Call Me Marianne: Notes & Drafts
PW 5-4	Call Me Marianne: Correspondence
PW 5-5	Call Me Marianne: Publication Information and Reviews
PW 5-6	Call Me Marianne: Illustrated Layout Pages and Poster (Oversize Box)
PW 5-7	The Whole Measure: Poetry Booklet
PW 5-8	Pieces of Georgia: Research
PW 5-9	Pieces of Georgia: Early Notes and Drafts (3 folders)
PW 5-10	Pieces of Georgia: Original Manuscripts
PW 5-11	Pieces of Georgia: Edited Manuscript (2 folders)
PW 5-12	Pieces of Georgia: Editor's Copy
PW 5-13	Pieces of Georgia: Final Revision Dated November 29, 2005

PW Box 6

PW 6-1	Pieces of Georgia: Copyedited Manuscripts (3 folders)
PW 6-2	Pieces of Georgia: First Pass Galley Copy (2 folders)
PW 6-3	Pieces of Georgia: Second Pass Galley Copy (2 folders)
PW 6-4	Pieces of Georgia: Second Pass Galley Copy with Revisions
PW 6-5	Pieces of Georgia: Advance Galley Copies & Publication Information
PW 6-6	Pieces of Georgia: Author's Note and Publisher's Catalogues
PW 6-7	Pieces of Georgia: Correspondence
PW 6-8	Pieces of Georgia: Posters (Oversize Box)
PW 6-9	Sentence: A Journal of Prose Poetics - Copy
PW 6-10	Poet Lore, Spring/ Summer 2007
PW 6-11	A River of Words: Asian Language Editions and Discussion Guide
PW 6-12	A River of Words: Art Exhibition Information
PW 6-13	Abe's Fish: Manuscript Copy
PW 6-14	Ringside 1925: Copyedited Manuscripts (2 folders)
PW 6-15	Ringside 1925: Advance Reader's Copy, Postcard, and Teacher's Guide
PW 6-16	Ringside 1925: Correspondence

PW Box 7

PW 7-1	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Cover
PW 7-2	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Research (3 folders)
PW 7-3	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Notes and Drafts (3 folders)
PW 7-4	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Drafts (4 folders)
PW 7-5	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Author's Manuscript
PW 7-6	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Edited Manuscript Dated March 4, 2008
PW 7-7	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Initial Revision Dated April 25, 2008

PW 7-8	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Copyedited Manuscript Dated July 8, 2008 (2 folders)
PW 7-9	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Advanced Reader's Copy

PW Box 8

PW 8-1	Kaleidoscope Eyes: First Pass Galley Copy (2 folders)
PW 8-2	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Second Pass Galley copy (2 folders)
PW 8-3	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Correspondence
PW 8-4	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Advance Reader's Copies, Teacher's Guide, and Publication Information (2 folders)

PW Box 9

PW 9-1	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Research and Edited Pages
PW 9-2	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Edited Manuscript (2 folders)
PW 9-3	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Correspondence and Teacher's Guide
PW 9-4	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Advance Reader's Copy and Publicity
PW 9-5	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Poster (Oversize Box)
PW 9-6	A Splash of Red: Proof and Promotional Material
PW 9-7	The Right Word: Signed Proof and Promotional Materials
PW 9-8	The Right Word: Large Page Layout (Oversize Box)
PW 9-8	The Right Word: Copy signed by 2015 Caldecott Committee
PW 9-9	The Right Word: Chinese Language Copy
PW 9-10	Six Dots: DVD
PW 9-11	Six Dots: Marketing Items and Galley Proofs
PW 9-12	Six Dots: Materials
PW 9-13	Six Dots: Unified English Braille Copy
PW 9-14	Six Dots: Asian Languages Editions
PW 9-15	Six Dots: Signed Copy
PW 9-16	You Just Wait: Poetry Friday Power Book Copy
PW 9-17	Fall Down Seven Times Stand Up Eight: Signed Copy
PW 9-18	Nonprofit Cultural Organizations In Pennsylvania's 19 th Senatorial District

Oversize Boxes

Box 1

	Oversize Materials
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Box 2

	Oversize Materials
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Removed from collection:

- *Eerdman's Books for Young Readers*, Spring 2005

- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Fall 2006
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Fall 2007
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Fall 2008
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Spring 2009
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Spring 2010
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Spring 2011
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Spring 2012
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Fall 2014
- *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*, Spring 2015
- *Responsibility, Creativity, and the Arts of Language: 105th Annual Convention*, NCTE
- *Resource Catalogue*, Junior Library Guide
- *Random House Children's Books*, Summer 2009
- *Random House Children's Books*, Spring 2008

Contact Information

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