MARSHA E. SMILEY COLLECTION, 2000-2011

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by

Zulaiha Razak
October 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Marsha E. Smiley was born in Richmond, Indiana on July 10, 1950 to Donald and Gladys Wilson Washington, Sr. The family moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1955. She graduated from Central High School in 1969 and obtained her B.A. in History from Indiana University, Bloomington in 1973. She married Ephraim Smiley, Jr. in 1974 and had four sons, Ephraim Scott, Christopher, Jonathan, and Brian.

Marsha Smiley is a dedicated member of the Fort Wayne African American community who promoted literacy and supported at-risk and underprivileged youth. She founded the "Spirit Flight" workshops in 1999. These are youth workshops that interweave the study of virtues with African American history. She also produced programming celebrating African American culture and achievement at the Fort Wayne Boys & Girls Clubs and Fort Wayne Urban League's Pontiac Youth Center. She serves on the governing boards of the African/African American Historical Society and the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society. She has received numerous awards for her work and community service, including the Doing Good Works Award from the United Way of Allen County (1998). She was named an International Women's Day Honoree (2005), Zonta Woman of the Year (2006), and one of the top 50 most influential African Americans in Northern Indiana by INK Newspaper (2004).

Sources:

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Series 1 contains various materials collected by Marsha E. Smiley that highlight African American history in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This includes a program from the African/African American Historical Society's 2009 Annual Spring Event, images of children's art work displayed at the Hessen Cassel Branch Library for Black History Month, materials from a presentation by Dr. Curtis Jones on early African American settlers of northeast Indiana, news clippings regarding African American genealogy, and an image of Benjamin and Winifred Jones, one of the first settlers of Whitley County, Indiana.

Series 2 contains writings and materials related to Marsha E. Smiley and her work promoting African American history in Fort Wayne, including the "Spirit Flight" workshops she founded in 1999. Her resume, news clippings, and testimonials regarding her service are also included.
SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Fort Wayne African American History Materials

CONTENTS
"Black History", Children's art work at the Hessen Cassel Branch Library, 2011
Benjamin and Winifred Jones Photograph, n.d.
"Early African American Settlers of Northeast Indiana", Presentation by Dr. Curtis Jones, 2009
News Clippings on African American Genealogy, 2000

CONTAINER
Box 1, Folder 1
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Box 1, Folder 5

Series 2: Marsha E. Smiley Materials

CONTENTS
Marsha E. Smiley Resume, n.d.
Marsha E. Smiley Testimonials, 2006-2008
Marsha E. Smiley, "A Hoosier Woman... Beyond Measure: Elma E. Alsup", 2011

CONTAINER
Box 1, Folder 6
Box 1, Folder 7
Box 1, Folder 8
Box 1, Folder 9
Box 1, Folder 10
Box 1, Folder 11
Box 1, Folder 12
CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: http://opac.indianahistory.org/

2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.

3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.

4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 1142).

5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.