Gloria Oden Papers

Finding aid prepared by Myles Mikulic
Special Collections, Honnold/Mudd Library
2019
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Claremont 91711
Email: spcoll@claremont.edu
URL: https://library.claremont.edu/scl/
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Gloria Oden Papers
Dates: 1955-2010
Collection number: H.Mss.1112
Creator: Oden, Gloria
Creator: Hall, Donald, 1928-2018
Creator: Martin, Jay
Extent: 1 Linear Foot (1 records box)
Repository: Claremont Colleges. Library. Special Collections, Honnold/Mudd Library. Claremont, CA 91711

Abstract: This collection contains materials relating to the poet Gloria Oden, created between 1955 and 2010. The collection predominantly consists of correspondence and poetry, but also includes photographs, newspapers clippings, and VHS tapes. A majority of the correspondence consists of letters from poetry critic Donald Hall to Gloria Oden written between 1974 and 1979, and letters from Gloria Oden to humanities and government professor Jay Martin from 1999 to 2010.

Language of Material: Languages represented in the collection: English.

Conditions Governing Access
Collection open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
All requests for permission to reproduce or to publish must be submitted in writing to Special Collections.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Gloria Oden Papers (Collection H.Mss.1112). Special Collections, The Claremont Colleges Library, Claremont, California.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Donated by Jay Martin in 2019.

Accruals
No additions to the collection are anticipated.

Processing Information
Processed in 2019 by library assistant Myles Mikulic, in the Special Collections branch of the Honnold Mudd Library with assistance from Sara Chetney and Lisa Crane. Materials have been stored in acid free folders and placed in a record box. Folders have been organized alphabetically by subject. Unopened letters have been opened and arranged chronologically. VHS tapes have been placed in acid free cases. High school report cards relating to Jay Martin were deemed out of scope and offered back to the donor.

Biographical / Historical
Gloria Oden was born on October 30, 1923 in Yonkers, New York. In 1939 she graduated from New Rochelle High School. She went on to attend Howard University, earning a BA in 1944 and a JD in 1948.


Oden died on December 16, 2011.

Scope and Contents
The collection contains materials relating to Gloria Oden, created between 1955 and 2010. Most of the collection consists of correspondence and poetry, with a majority of the correspondence consisting of letters from poetry critic Donald Hall to Gloria Oden written between 1974 and 1979, and letters from Gloria Oden to humanities and government professor Jay Martin from 1999 to 2010. The collection does not contain any letters from Oden to Hall, nor does it include letters from Martin to Oden.

Oden's letters to Martin frequently include newspaper clippings (mostly from The New York Times) and typed poems. The folders containing typed poems were likely included in letters to Martin, but were undated and found unsorted when received.
Arrangement
This collection has been organized alphabetically by subject. Correspondence has been organized in chronological order.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Poets

Genre and Form of Materials
Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
Correspondence
Photographs
Poetry
Video tapes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>Correspondence 1965-1969</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mostly contains correspondence between Gloria Oden and Galen Williams.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 2</th>
<th>Correspondence 1971</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contains one letter from Gloria Oden to Mildred.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 3</th>
<th>Correspondence 1974</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 4</th>
<th>Correspondence 1975</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
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<thead>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 5</th>
<th>Correspondence 1976</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 6</th>
<th>Correspondence 1977 January-October</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 7</th>
<th>Correspondence 1977 November-December</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 8</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 9</th>
<th>Correspondence 1979</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contains letters from Donald Hall to Gloria Oden.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Box 1, Folder 10  **Correspondence 1999**
   Note
   Contains letters from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 11  **Correspondence 2000 January-July**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 12  **Correspondence 2000 August-December**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 13  **Correspondence 2001 January-June**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 14  **Correspondence 2001 July-August**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 15  **Correspondence 2001 September**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 16  **Correspondence 2001 October**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 17  **Correspondence 2001 November**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 18  **Correspondence 2002**
Box 1, Folder 19  **Correspondence 2005**
   Note
   Contains letters and poems from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 20  **Correspondence 2010**
   Note
   Contains one letter from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 21  **Ephemera 1975 and undated**
   Note
   Contains 1975 University of Michigan theatre program (featuring a biographical note about Donald Hall) and a publishing company advertisement; was likely supplemental material in letters from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 22  **Newspaper Clippings 1955-2001**
   Note
Box 1, Folder 24  **Oden, Redmond S. circa 2001**  
Note  
Contains material that was likely supplemental to a letter from Gloria Oden to Jay Martin. Includes a photocopy of a 1918 letter from Sterling N. Brown to Redmond Oden.

Box 1, Folder 25  **Photographs 2000 and undated**  
Note  
Contains one photograph from 2000; the rest are undated.

Box 1, Folder 26  **Poem Draft circa 1990**  
Box 1, Folder 27  **Poem Draft, "Covenant"**  
Box 1, Folder 28  **Poems (1 of 4) circa 1990s-2002**  
Note  
Contains typed, undated poems by Gloria Oden, possibly included in letters to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 29  **Poems (2 of 4) circa 1990s-2002**  
Note  
Contains typed, undated poems by Gloria Oden, possibly included in letters to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 30  **Poems (3 of 4) circa 1990s-2002**  
Note  
Contains typed, undated poems by Gloria Oden, possibly included in letters to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 31  **Poems (4 of 4) circa 1990s-2002**  
Note  
Contains typed, undated poems by Gloria Oden, possibly included in letters to Jay Martin.

Box 1, Folder 32  **Poems - bound 2000**  
Note  
Hardcover bound collection of poems by Gloria Oden.

Box 1, Folder 33  **VHS Tapes 2000-2004**  
Note  

Box 1, Folder 34  **VHS Tapes 2005 and undated**  
Note  
Contains VHS tapes labeled: "CTN 66 Dr. Gloria Oden 'Black Methodism' 2/16/05", "Channel Six Productions Women's History Month With Dr. Charlotte Ferencz and Dr. Mathilde Rovelstad", and "Dr Gloria Oden-Bell".