K1230
Viola Gardner (1903-1989) Papers
1953-1982
One cubic foot

Gardner was Poet Laureate of Missouri. Includes her poetry, publications, correspondence, and instruction techniques. Also photocopies of the poetry journal, “Orphic Lute” which she published.

BIOGRAPHY:

Viola Gardner was born on February 10, 1903, in Avery, Oklahoma. She graduated from Parsons High School, Tyler Texas Commercial College, and Kansas City Teacher College. Viola edited and published several newspapers, journals, and brochures, and was at one time Poet Laureate of Missouri. Her husband, Thomas F. Gardner, died in 1963. She lived in Kansas City for thirty-nine years and then moved to El Paso, Texas. She died in Marfa, Texas, on January 12, 1989.

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Laura Dutcher as accession KA1022 on February 8, 1999. An addition, KA1334, was made January 10, 2005, the gift of Elizabeth Jensen.

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DESCRIPTION:

This collection concerns Viola’s life as a poet. As such, it contains her poetry, publications, correspondence, and instruction techniques. Folders 23 thru 36 contain photocopies of the Orphic Lute dating from Spring 1977 thru Summer 1982.

INVENTORY:

BOX 001

Folder 1. Biographical information
Folder 2. Correspondence
Folder 3. Published material, clippings
Folder 4. Orphic Lute (poetry journal)
Folder 5. Poetry Books by Viola Gardner
Folder 6. Collections of poetry, including those of Viola’s
Folder 7. Collections of poetry by Viola’s friends and students
Folder 8. Poems: Handwritten
Folder 9. Poems: Holidays
Folder 10. Poems: Humor
Folder 11. Poems: Love
Folder 12. Poems: Love
Folder 13. Poems: Nature
Folder 14. Poems: Spiritual
Folder 15. Poems: Various Themes
Folder 16. Poems: Short Poems
Folder 17. Poems: “Love Poems of a Shy Violet”
Folder 18. Poems: “Catty Schisms”
Folder 19. Poetry Contests
Folder 20. Poetry and Instruction
Folder 21. Instruction
Folder 22. Instruction

PHOTOCOPIES OF POETRY JOURNAL (KA1334)
Folder 23. Orphic Lute, Spring 1977
Folder 24. Orphic Lute, Summer 1977
Folder 25. Orphic Lute, Autumn 1977
Folder 26. Orphic Lute, Summer 1978
Folder 27. Orphic Lute, Autumn 1978
Folder 28. Orphic Lute, Spring 1979
Folder 29. Orphic Lute, Summer 1979
Folder 30. Orphic Lute, Autumn 1979
Folder 31. Orphic Lute, Winter 1979
Folder 32. Orphic Lute, Spring 1980
Folder 33. Orphic Lute, Christmas 1980
Folder 34. Orphic Lute, Winter 1980
Folder 35. Orphic Lute, Autumn 1981
Folder 36. Orphic Lute, Summer 1982