

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Music Department

Title: Pittsburgh Choral Society Collection

Overview of the Collection

Reference Code: Pittsburgh Music Archive #65

Creator: Charles N. Boyd

Dates: 1919-1922

Extent: 3 volumes

Language: English

Repository:

Music Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Main Branch, 4400 Forbes Avenue,
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Acquisition Information: Donated to The Music Division of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh through sponsorship from The Boyd Memorial Association, 1938.

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Finding Aid Created by: Joelle Killebrew

Related Finding Aids:

- Charles N. Boyd Collection

Notes on the Collection

Historical Note

The Pittsburgh Choral Society, in existence from 1919 to 1922, was a mixed chorus of 100 voices. The stated mission on each program: "Devoted to the Performance of Unaccompanied Vocal Music." John A. Bell was President of the Board, and Charles N. Boyd was the Musical Director.

Singers were enlisted for one year at a time, auditioned by Charles N. Boyd and two other committee members. It cost the members \$3.50 a year to join the society.

The group included the music of Pittsburgh composers Adolph M. Foerster and Harvey Gaul in their performances.

Scope and Content

3 volumes containing concert programs, choral sheet music and personal correspondence, bound into volumes by Charles N. Boyd. The hard-bound book covers contain embossed initials "C.N.B." on the spines.

Container List

- Volume 1: Pittsburgh Choral Society, Season 1, 1919-1920.
 - Announcement of purpose, and application to join the society.
 - Concert programs for 4/15/1920 and 5/11/1920. Performances were held at the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland.
 - List of members of the Board of Management and Governing Committee.
 - Choral sheet music of pieces used in the performances; initialed and marked up by Charles. N. Boyd.
- Volume 2: Pittsburgh Choral Society, Season 2, 1920-1921.
 - Concert programs for 12/1/1920, 2/16/1921 and 4/27/1921. Performances were held at the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland.
 - Concert program 6/7/1921, "Music Festival – Fifteen Hundred Voices." Performances were held at the Syria Mosque in Oakland.
 - Choral sheet music of pieces used in the performances; initialed and marked up by Charles. N. Boyd.
- Volume 3: Pittsburgh Choral Society, Season 3, 1921-1922.
 - Concert programs for 12/8/1921, 2/14/1922 and 4/20/1922. Performances were held at the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland.
 - Concert program 2/23/1922 - Presented by League of Women Voters, Bellevue Branch. Performance was held at Bellevue High School Auditorium.
 - Choral sheet music of pieces used in the performances; initialed and marked up by Charles. N. Boyd.
 - Personal correspondence 12/8/1921, from composer Richard Kountz to Charles N. Boyd, congratulating the group on a performance. The group performed Kountz's pieces. One piece "Holy Infant Lying Lowly" is dedicated "To the Pittsburgh Choral Society; Charles N. Boyd, Conductor."
 - Personal correspondence 4/21/1922, 2/8/1922, from composer Adolph M. Foerster to Charles N. Boyd, thanking him and commenting on the performances of his pieces.