

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Music Department

**Title: Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh Collection**

Overview of the Collection

**Reference Code:** Pittsburgh Music Archive #64

**Creator:** Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh

**Dates:** 1911-1963

**Extent:** 4 volumes, 1 photograph

**Language:** English

**Repository:**

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

**Acquisition Information:** This collection was donated to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

**Copyright:** none

**Restrictions:** none

**Requested Citation:** Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh Collection, Pittsburgh Music Archive #64, Music Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

**Finding Aid Created by:** Joelle Killebrew

**Related Finding Aids:**

- Russell G. Wichmann Collection
- Roland Leich Collection

Notes on the Collection

**Historical Note**

The Mendelssohn Male Choir was organized in Pittsburgh by Ernest Lunt in 1908. Starting with about 40 male singers, the first concert was held on January 28, 1909, at Carnegie Music Hall. Women were invited to join the organization in 1915. Ernest Lunt was the Director from 1908-1950, followed by Russell Wichmann from 1952-1966. Still active today, the [Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh](#) performs with world-renown guest accompanists and orchestras and has had a close association with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since 1939. The group has been featured on many recordings over the years.

## Scope and Content

- Concert programs – 3 bound volumes
- History of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, 1938
- Mounted photograph of Mendelssohn Male Choir, April 13, 1909, Carnegie Hall.

## Container List

- **Volume 1:** Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh – Programs 1911-1934 (1911/1912, called the Mendelssohn Male Choir). Bound volume.
- **Volume 2:** Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh – Programs 1909-1959 (1911/1912, called the Mendelssohn Male Choir). Bound volume.
- **Volume 3:** A History of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, 1938, by Robert Bruce Watkins.
- **Volume 4:** Program dedicated to the Parade of American music and honoring the National Federation of Music Clubs and Randall Thompson in their thirty-second biennial convention, Carnegie Music Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Monday, April 22, 1963. Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh. Volume includes bios of leadership and short history of the organization.
- **Photograph:** (8.5" x 14") 45 members of the Mendelssohn Male Choir including Ernest Lunt, director, April 13, 1909, Carnegie Hall.

## See also

- [Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh](#) in the CLP library catalog