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### Centennial Choir (1975-1998) and "The Messiah" (1915-1984) Concert, Programs

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#37 Centennial Choir (1975-1998) and “The Messiah” (1915-1984) Concert, Programs  
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### **INTRODUCTION**

Concert programs of the Centennial Choir and community-wide “Messiah” concerts, held in Crawford County, Kansas.

### **DONOR INFORMATION**

Programs were donated by the Department of Music at Pittsburg State University.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY**

The Centennial Choir, a group of area citizens from Crawford County, Southeast Kansas and Southwest Missouri, formed the choir in 1975 to celebrate the national bicentennial in 1976. The choir performed under two different directors, Marshall Turley, from 1975 until the fall of 1988, and Susan Marchant, from the fall of 1988 until the group disbanded the fall of 1998.

Dr. Walter McCray (1897-1959), the second chairperson for the Music Department, organized the college’s annual Music Festival in 1915 which was a week-long event featuring guest soloists, orchestras, and operas. The highlight of each festival was the presentation of Handel’s “Messiah”. “The Messiah” was later performed on several occasions by the Centennial Choir and Pittsburg State University Choir.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Centennial Choir and “The Messiah” Collection consists primarily of concert programs. For purposes of arrangement and to accommodate future addition to the collection, each series is designated by a letter of the alphabet, A-B, and folders in each series are numbered consecutively from one to the end. Each series is arranged in chronological order.

### **FOLDER LIST**

**Series A** f. 1-4 Centennial Choir Concert Program Series

**Series B** f. 1-6 “The Messiah” Concert Program Series