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Wheeler, Ray, Collection, MS 119

Ray Wheeler Collection

Collection Number	MS 119
Title	The Ray Wheeler Collection
Name and Location of Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
Dates	1963 – 1979
Collection Size	1 linear foot
Creator	Ray Wheeler. Wheeler donated this collection May 1985.

Scope and Content Ray Wheeler was a poet, playwright, and author of short stories and novels. The materials in this collection pertain to Wheeler's relationship with James Tate, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, and alumnus of Pittsburg State University. This includes correspondence, biographical articles, clippings, programs, poems, manuscripts, publicity material, photographs, and sketches.

Access Restrictions This collection is open for access

Languages English

Biographical Note L. Ray Wheeler was born in Kansas City, Kansas on June 24, 1940. He received his bachelor's degree from Kansas State College of Pittsburg (now Pittsburg State University) in 1963, and his Ph.D from the University of North Dakota. Wheeler taught composition, philosophy, and creative writing at Dickinson Sate College (now University) in Dickinson, North Dakota for 46 years. Dr. Wheeler passed away in Dickinson, North Dakota on November 27, 2018.

Series The collection is divided into eight series: **Correspondence, Biographical; Clippings; Programs; Poems by James Tate; Manuscripts by James Tate; Publicity for James Tate; and Photographs and Drawings.** All of the series are arranged chronologically.

The **Correspondence** Series includes letters from Tate to Wheeler.

The **Biographical** series consists of a brief biography on Tate, and two short biographies on Douglass Mellor and Dale Reipe.

The **Clipping** series contains biographical articles over Tate and his works.

The **Programs** series contains two programs for two of Wheeler's plays.

The **Poems by James Tate** series consists of Tate's poetry.

The **Manuscripts by James Tate** series contains two rough drafts for "A Nice Day for No Parade."

The **Publicity for James Tate** Series consists of an advertisement for a reading and an interview he gave for *The Matrix*.

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The **Photographs and Drawings** series contains a photograph of James Tate, a photograph of downtown Pittsburg, and several sketches of Tate.

Folder List

Correspondence

- f. 1 1963-1964
- f. 2 1965
- f. 3 1966
- f. 4 1966
- f. 5 1967
- f. 6 1968-1969
- f. 7 1970-1973
- f. 8 1974
- f. 9 1975-1979

Biographical

- f. 10 Biography of James Tate
Biography of Douglass Mellor and Dale Reipe

Clippings

- f. 11 1963-1967

Programs

- f. 12 "Prairie Humoresque" (undated)
"Dakota III" (undated)

Poems by James Tate

- f. 13 1965-1967
- f. 14 Undated
- f. 15 Undated

Manuscript by James Tate

- f. 16 Rough draft of "A Nice Day for No Parade" (2x)

Publicity for James Tate

- f. 17 Public Reading (1966)
Interview of Tate for *The Matrix* (1967)

Photographs and Drawings

- f. 18 Photograph of James Tate
Photograph of downtown Pittsburg by Bruce Daniel
Sketches of James Tate