

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

Afua Cooper Papers, 2019

Dates: 1992-2019

Extent: 4 boxes (.8 metres)

Scope and Content:

This accession of Afua Cooper's papers contains records related to writing and community involvement, material pertaining to her academic career as well as a small amount of personal papers. This includes writing drafts of poetry, articles and papers, project proposals, permissions and royalties for published books, as well as promotional material, such as flyers, posters, and programs, for community events, particularly those related to the African-Canadian community, that Cooper participated in or attended. The papers also contains some administrative records related to university professorship applications and letters of references, as well as programs, calls for papers and posters for academic conferences and lectures.

Arrangement:

Contains Series:

- Series 1: Writing and Community Involvement
- Series 2: Academic Career and Teaching
- Series 3: Personal

Custodial History:

Papers were donated to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library by Afua Cooper in 2019. Previous accessions were donated in 2008 and 2016 (see MS Coll. 552, 737).

Notes:

Shorthand notations are used throughout the finding aid and are to be translated as follows:

WP – word processed (computer)

XP – Xerox copy of typescript

WP with editorial revisions or manuscript revisions– computer generated with editor's revisions or someone other than the author,

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

handwritten

WP with holograph revisions – computer generated with handwritten revisions in the hand of the author

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

SERIES 1: Writing and Community Involvement		
BOX: FOLDER	CONTENTS	DATE(S)
	Poetry Drafts	
Box 1 Folder 1	WP drafts, "I Don't Care if Your Nanny was Black" (2 versions)	[1992]
1:2	WP draft, "White Men Win Again"	[1993]
1:3	WP draft, "Woman a Wail"	[199?]
1:4	WP draft, "Mediations on an Impending Marriage"	[199?]
1:5	WP draft, "for Poetry's Sake" with holograph notations	[199?]
1:6	WP draft, "For Nur"	[200?]
1:7	WP draft, "Even Warrior Women"	[200?]
1:8	WP draft, "The Ring"	[200?]
1:9	WP draft, "Richard Pierpont, Revolutionary Soldier" with extensive holograph notations	25 December 2005
1:10	WP poem, "Night Ease" from <i>Copper Woman: And Other Poems</i>	[2005]
1:11	Holograph draft of an untitled poem	[201?]

Afua Cooper Papers

	Articles and Project Proposals	
1:12	Draft project proposal for a manuscript of poems, <i>The Dead is Giving Birth to the Living</i> with holograph notes.	[200?]
1:13	Description of project, <i>The Young Henry Bibb: A Slave Child in America</i>	[200?]
1:14	Draft paper, “Ever True to the Cause of Freedom. Henry Bibb: Abolitionist and Black Freedom’s Champion, 1814-1854” with [editorial] revisions	[200?]
1:15	Published article, “A Monument for the Maroons” in <i>The Coast</i>	23-29 August 2018
1:16	Draft of article, “Street Checks is Halifax’s Shame” with minimal holograph revision	April 2019
	Permissions and Royalties	
1:17	Permission agreement for poem “Negro Cemeteries” to be used in <i>SONKOFA: The African Diaspora</i>	29 January 2014
1:18	Royalty statements for <i>The Hanging of Angelique</i>	2015-2017
1:19	Royalty statements for <i>My Name is Henry Bibb</i>	2015-2016
	Readings, Launches and Involvement in Community Events	
1:20	Letter inviting Afua Cooper to participate in the 1993 Dub Poetry Festival International	6 October 1992
1:21	Poster for Vancouver Free Press Festival’s Children’s Indoor Poetry Picnic featuring reading by Afua Cooper	[199-]
1:22	Promotional flyer for Dub Poets Collective’s Black Maple Dub Series Kickoffer featuring Afua Cooper	1 November 2003

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

Box 4 Folder 1 (ovs)	Poster for the launch of <i>Copper Woman and Other Poems</i> by the Dub Poets Collective	22 June 2006
Box 2 (flat)	Poster for the launch of <i>Copper Woman and Other Poems</i> at the Institute of Caribbean Studies	24 August 2006
1:23	XP promotional poster and clippings for the 11 th Saskatchewan Festival of Words with reading by Afua Cooper	July 2007
1:24	Pamphlet for Halifax West Human Library Day with description of Afua Cooper as a human book	25 April 2014
1:25	Schedule for <i>All Through the House: A Night of Feminist Art & Culture</i> including reading of “Memories Have Tongue” by Afua Cooper	23 May 2014
1:26	Promotional flyer for <i>Black Canadian Trailblazers – then and now</i> – featuring reading by Afua Cooper	8 February 2017
Box 4 Folder 2 (ovs)	Poster for the Calgary Spoken Word Festival	22-25 April 2017
1:27	Program for Revd. Trevor Phillips 10 th Memorial Advent Gospel Concert at St. Augustine’s Anglican Church with poem reading by Afua Cooper	25 November 2017
1:28	Pamphlet for exhibition, <i>Black Matters: Urban Photography</i> at kommunale galerie with text by Afua Cooper	October 2018 – February 2019
1:29	Flyers for an Evening with Halifax Poet Laureate Afua Cooper at the Halifax Central Library	24 January 2019
1:30	Program for 2019 Black History Month Kick-Off Brunch with keynote by Afua Cooper	27 January 2019
1:31	Program for 62 nd Independence Day Celebration with reading by Afua Cooper	2019
	Promotional	
1:32	Reviews of <i>Memories Have Tongue</i>	1992-1993

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

1:33	University of Toronto's <i>National Report</i> with article on Afua Cooper	1998
1:34	Program for <i>Great Books by Great Grads</i> at University of Toronto with description of Afua Cooper's <i>The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Toronto</i> with thank you letter	May-June 2003
1:35	Article on Afua Cooper receiving the William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations in <i>The Caribbean Camera</i>	December 2007
	Awards	
Box 2 (flat)	Presented to Afua Cooper from Nile Valley Foundation Learning Centre	n.d
Box 2 (flat)	<i>Poet Vibes</i> on Dub Poets including Afua Cooper as 'Our Doctor of Poetry'	n.d
Box 2 (flat)	Bob Marley Day Award presented to Afua Cooper	2015
	Financial	
1:36	Financial statements for the Dub Poets Collective	2006
	Professional Correspondence	
1:37	Letter and email regarding the memorialization of Mary Miles Bibb and Henry Bibb from Parks Canada and the Rhode Island Historical Society	October 2005
1:38	Congratulatory card on being a recipient of the Human Rights Award	2015
1:39	Congratulatory letters and cards on becoming the Poet Laureate of Halifax	2018
	Promotional Material for Community Events	

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

1:40	Funeral program, poster and articles on Dudley Laws	2006-2011
1:41	Promotional postcards and flyers for community events	2009-[201-]
1:42	Tickets and invitations to various events	2015-2018
1:43	Booklet for My Brother's Keeper: Boys and Young Men Leadership Project	2015
1:44	Program and ticket for <i>The Green Book</i> at Alderney Landing Theatre	October 2016
1:46	Issue of <i>AfroGlobal Excellence</i>	Autumn 2018
1:47	Promotional postcard for Celebrate Viola events in Halifax	November 2018
1:48	Program for Congr�s des �crivains Noirs � Monr�al: 50 Ans Apr�s	10 February 2019
1:49	Program for Quanda Johnson's <i>Beyond the Veil of the Sorrow Songs</i> presented by NYU Africana Studies	[201-]

SERIES 2: Academic Career and Teaching		
BOX: FOLDER	CONTENTS	DATE(S)
	University Professorships and Teaching	
Box 3 Folder 1	Curriculum vitae for Afua Cooper with applications, teaching philosophy and course plans	[199-]

Afua Cooper Papers

3:2	Letter of recommendation for Afua Cooper written Constance Brown Demb for the CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award	11 February 1999
3:3	An open letter to Professor Jane Abrey regarding African Canadian history at the University of Toronto by Afua Cooper	13 September 2005
3:4	Acceptance offer as the Ruth Wynn Woodward Visiting Professor in Women's Studies at Simon Fraser University	June 2008
3:5	Letter and application for full professorship at Dalhousie University	1 August 2017
3:6	Letters of recommendation written by Afua Cooper	[2017]
3:7	Notice of thesis defence for Reddi Sekhara Yalamala (Afua Cooper as reader)	December 2018
3:8	Agenda for Black Faculty Meeting at Dalhousie University	22 January 2019
3:9	<i>The Room with No View: Stories from Room 2-278</i> by the Toronto Artworks writing collective (instructed by Afua Cooper and Althea Trotman)	n.d
	Conferences and Lectures	
3:10	Afua Cooper's itinerary for poetry reading and public lecture at St. Francis Xavier University	February 2005
3:11	Program for <i>Opening the Academy: New Strategies for Exploring & Sharing African Nova Scotian History</i> with Afua Cooper's paper, "Black Loyalists as Atlantic Revolutionaries"	February 2014
3:12	Program addendum for Berkshire Conference on the History of Women at the University of Toronto	22-25 May 2014
3:13	Agenda for "No Small Courage": A Symposium. <i>Lives and Legacies: Prudence Crandall's African-American Students, Part 2</i>	May 2015
3:14	Program for Summer Institute: Afrodescendances, Cultures and Citizenship with keynote by Afua Cooper	August 2015

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

3:15	Flyer for a classroom discussion of <i>The Hanging of Angelique</i> by Afua Cooper at Dalhousie University	27 January 2016
Box 4 Folder 3 (ovs)	Poster for Afua Cooper lecture as a part of the McGill Seminar on Slavery and the Law	16 September 2016
3:16	Program for <i>To Do Our Share: The African Canadian Experience in WWI</i> conference with reading by Afua Cooper	October 2016
Box 4 Folder 4 (ovs)	Poster for Professor Carolyn Cooper's 'Mek We Talk Bout De Bottom of De Sea': Submerged Narratives in Caribbean Literature and Popular Culture at Dalhousie University (Presented by Afua Cooper)	28 October 2016
3:17	Call for papers for the Black Canadian Studies Association's <i>Blackness, Indigeneity, Colonialism, and Confederation: 21st Century Perspectives</i>	January 2017
3:18	Invitation and draft meeting schedule for Universities Studying Slavery Spring Meeting	March 2017
3:19	Flyer for Acadia University's lecture by Afua Cooper	23 November 2017
3:20	Program for Anti-Racism Conference 2017 with Afua Cooper speaking at the "Roots of the Current State" plenary	2017
3:21	Poster for <i>Historicizing Xenophobia in Canada: Unpacking Settler-Colonialism, Immigration and Multiculturalism</i> at the University of Toronto with keynote address by Afua Cooper	3 February 2018
Box 4 Folder 5 (ovs)	Poster for Black History Month at the UNB Art Centre including lecture by Afua Cooper, "Slavery and the Construction of Black People as Property: The Legacy" (2 posters)	February 2018
3:22	Poster for Afua Cooper's interactive presentation and dub poetry reading, "Black Bodies, Black Consciousness and the Legacy of Slavery in Canada" as a part of Celebrating Black History Month and NYU.	February 2018
Box 4 Folder 6 (ovs)	Poster for Afua Cooper's lecture "The Ownership of Her Womb: Black Women, Reproduction and Slavery in Canada" at Dalhousie University	27 March 2018
3:23	Promotional placard for the Belong Forum: Craig Steven Wilder with WP draft notes for Afua Cooper's introduction	March 2018

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

3:24	Program for the 4 th Annual Black Canadian Studies Association Conference	May 2018
3:25	Program for <i>Black Power: Movements, Cultures and Resistance in the Black Americas</i> with opening address and round table featuring Afua Cooper	October 2018
3:26	Invitation for Afua Cooper's scholarly panel to examine Lord Dalhousie's History on Slavery and Race	December 2018
3:27	Name tag for 2018 Congress conference	2018
3:28	Program for <i>Protests and Pedagogy</i> conference at Concordia University with literary reading and roundtable discussion by Afua Cooper	February 2019
	Professional Correspondence	
3:29	Professional correspondence primarily regarding grants and fellowships	1995, 2011, 2015-2016
3:30	Letters regarding scholarships and institutional gifts	2016-2018
3:31	Thank you cards for participating in events	[2017-2018]

SERIES 3: Personal		
BOX: FOLDER	CONTENTS	DATE(S)
3:32	Certificates of appreciation for Akil Powell from the Kwanzaa Committee of Toronto and the Black Cultural Heritage Program	1992, 1997
3:33	Certificates of appreciation from the Kwanzaa Committee of Toronto, the SBIBKIS Muslim Inmate Assistance Program Eid Dinner, and the Afri-Can FoodBasket	1997, 2002, 2013

MS
Coll.
00378A

Afua Cooper Papers

3:34	Jarvis Collegiate Institute Commencement for Lamarana Cooper Diallo	October 2011
3:35	Photographs of Afua Cooper and daughters, Lamarana and Habiba in Ethiopia (10 photographs)	2011
3:36	Funeral program for Ruth Cooper	2016
3:37	Sympathy cards on the death of Ruth Cooper	2016
3:38	Funeral program for Dr. Agnes Miranda Calliste with tribute from George Dei	September 2018
3:39	Article on Habiba Cooper Diallo in <i>Making Waves: Stories of Second-Generation Immigrants</i>	2019
3:40	Personal cards from daughter and nephew	[201-]