

Institution: Bronzeville Historical Society

Collection Title: Sherry Williams Collection

Date Span:

Extent: __ linear feet

Provenance: Collected by Sherry Williams

Processors: Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project." By Angelique Schuler, May 22, 2013.

Restrictions: none

Abstract:

Sherry Williams is the founder and President of the Bronzeville Historical Society. Sherry is the first generation of her family lineage born in Chicago. Both her parents picked cotton and were born in the Mississippi Delta. Sherry was born and raised on the southside of Chicago in the Englewood community. Sherry is a member of Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, an Audubon Fellow (2012) bird conservationist, an author, and an activist in the Bronzeville community. This collection focuses on her personal life. Also mentioned throughout the collection are her three daughters; Aja Hall, Shaina Tucker and Joi Tucker.

The collection is organized into four series. The first series are correspondences and greeting cards from various individuals to Sherry Williams. The second series are the list of certificates received by Sherry Williams or her daughters. The third series is the genealogical project that Sherry Williams compiled over the last twenty years to trace her family back to the antebellum period in history. The fourth series are the family photographs. The majority of the photographs added to the collection were found loose without dates or original grouping. The final series is regalia – and within this grouping are several physical objects that belonged to Sherry Williams or her daughters.

Biographical/ Historical Note

On January 3, 1960, Sherry Williams was born in Chicago, Illinois. Sherry is the only daughter born to Doris Davis and Johnie Lee Green. Williams was raised with her two older brothers, Marlon Williams and Steven Williams, who were born and grew up in Chicago's Englewood community. Sherry has more than 10 siblings from marriages of parents. Sherry graduated from Harper High School in 1978. Sherry Williams worked for the United States Postal Office for over twenty-five years. Sherry attended Western Illinois University and Northeastern Illinois University. She anticipates her BA in Inner City Studies Education in December 2017.

Access Headings:

Container List:

Sherry Williams Collection			
Box	Folde r	Title	Date
Series I : Correspondence and Family Documents			
1	1	Correspondences: Flyers from family members	various dates
1	2	Correspondence: CPS confirmation of Sherry Williams' graduation date	February 4, 1980
1	3	Correspondence: to Sherry Williams, Re: Termination of Employment	September 15, 1981
1	4	Correspondence from Abraham Lincoln Centre to Sherry Williams	October 23, 1982 June 10, 1983
1	5	Correspondence from Sherry Williams, Re: Letter of resignation	December 12, 1984
1	6	Documents from Chicago Police Department	undated
1	7	Job Application : Illinois Masonic Medical Center	undated
1	8	Job Application : Secretary Position	undated
1	9	Cards to Sherry Williams (1 of 3)	various dates
1	10	Cards to Sherry Williams (2 of 3)	various dates
1	11	Cards to Sherry Williams (3 of 3)	various dates
1	12	Work Documents	1981, undated
Series II : Certificates			

1	13	Marriage License: John Williams and Doris Sanders	7/6/1935
1	14	Elementary School Certificate 'Marlon Williams'	6/25/?
1	15	Certificate of Baptism - Sherry Williams	2/19/1961
1	16	Middle School Diploma and Final Report Card	1974
1	17	Positive Pregnancy Test from Planned Parenthood for Sherry Williams (Aja Hall)	7/7/1977
1	18	Baby foot-prints for Shaina Ray Tucker	2/7/1988
1	19	Birth Certificate for Joi Lorraine Tucker	4/27/1991
1	20	Homework Award for Shaina Tucker	5/25/1994
1	21	2 Certificates of Merit for Shaina Tucker	6/15/1994
1	22	Computer Achievement Certificate for Sherry Williams	Mar-95
1	23	Certificate of Scholastic Achievement for Shaina Tucker	6/11/1997
1	24	Student Achievement Award for Joi Tucker	6/10/1998
1	25	2 Science Fair Certificates of Participation for Shaina Tucker	12/6/1996
1	26	Center for New Horizon's: Certificate of Course Completion	9/10/1998
1	27	Baptism invitation for Shaina and Joi Tucker	2/7/1999
1	28	Certificate of Registration for Bronzeville / Black Chicago 100 Notable People and Places	1999
1	29	Art Award - Shaina Tucker	6/8/1999
1	30	Certificate of Completion for the study of 'The Ultimate Adventure with Jesus' - Aja Hall	8/20/1999
1	31	Academic Excellence Award - Shaina Tucker	7/10-20/2000
1	32	Certificate of Appreciation for Sherry Williams	3/28/2007

1	33	Newspaper article that mentions Steven Williams	undated
1	34	Illinois H4 Program Award of Participation : Shaina Tucker	undated
1	35	Report Cards from Aja Hall, Shaina and Joi Tucker	various dates
1	36	Graduation Brochures	various dates
1	37	Family Obituaries	Various dates
1	38	Family Recipes	undated
Series III : Genealogical Records/ Extended Family			
2	1	How to trace your family lineage – Handouts	undated
2	2	Family Tree Diagrams – Handouts	undated
2	3	Williams Family Census Records	various dates
2	4	Cooper Family papers	various dates
2	5	Washington Cooper	various dates
2	6	John Cooper	various dates
2	7	Alexander Cooper	various dates
2	8	Nero Cooper	various dates
2	9	Edward Cooper	various dates
2	10	Booker Cooper	various dates
2	11	Hale Family papers	various dates
2	12	Last Will of Gertrude Hale	6/29/1983
2	13	Canterberry/ Lampley Research Notes	various dates
2	14	Sherry Williams' Research Notes	c. 1990-2000s

2	15	Printed photocopies of original documents	undated
Series IV : Photographs			
3	1	Photographs of Sherry Williams	c. 1970-2000s
3	2	Photographs of Aja Hall	c. 1980s-2000s
3	3	Photographs of Aja Hall	c. 1980s-2000s
3	4	Photographs of Shaina Tucker	c. 1980s-2000s
3	5	Photographs of Joi Tucker	c. 1980s-2000s
3	6	Photographs of Bobby Tucker	c. 1980s-2000s
3	7	Photographs of Steve and Marlon Williams	c. 1970s-2000s
3	8	Photographs of Sherry Williams' Family (1 of 2)	c. 1980s-2000s
3	9	Photographs of Sherry Williams' Family (2 of 2)	c. 1980s-2000s
3	10	Photographs of Lampley Family	undated
3	11	Photographs of Hale Family	undated
4	1	Photographs on vacations or at events	c. 1980s-2000s
4	2	Sherry Williams at the King Library with Gerri Gibson	1999
4	3	Photographs of Sherry Williams' friends	c. 1980s-2000s
4	4	Photographs of Sherry Williams' co-workers	c. 1980s-2000s
4	5	Photographs of the 4538 S. Forrestville Home	1991-1993
4	6	Various Family photographs bound by tape or glue	c. 1980s-2000s
4	7	Digital scans of family photographs	c. 1980s-2000s
4	8	Loose negatives	undated
5	N/A	Oversized family photographs	c. 1980s-2000s

Series V: Realia			
5	N/A	Poly sleeve with hospital bracelets	1988, 1991
5	N/A	2 D.A.R.E metals	undated
5	N/A	Graduation Cap	undated
5	N/A	Graduation tassels	2009
5	N/A	Graduation tassels	1992
5	N/A	Bride and Groom glasses and cake topper	
5	N/A	Shaina Tucker Diploma	2002
5	N/A	Certificate of Appreciation for Sherry Williams	1996
5	N/A	Certificate of Appreciation for Sherry Williams	1995
5	N/A	Methodist Membership and Church Records	undated