

## **JOSEPH P. LITTLE CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECORDS, 1908-2007**

**1.0 cu. ft. (2 document boxes)**

### **ABSTRACT**

Joseph Pritchard Little was born in July 1919 in Central, South Carolina. Joseph's family moved to Charlotte in 1921, and after attending Duke University, he returned to stay in 1939. He played flute with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra from 1934 until his retirement in 1989. Mr. Little died in October 2012.

The Charlotte Symphony Orchestra was formed in 1932. It is the largest and most active professional performing arts organization in the central Carolinas. The Charlotte Symphony also includes small ensembles of musicians such as the Flute Club and two Youth Orchestras, among others. Some of these small ensembles perform outreach services to local hospitals, and other organizations.

This collection consists of programs, newspaper articles, photographs, and audio/visual materials.

### **ACCESS**

This collection is open to the public without restriction. The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

### **PREFERRED CITATION**

Cite as: Joseph P. Little Charlotte Symphony Orchestra Records, 1908-2007, Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

### **HISTORICAL NOTE**

The Charlotte Symphony Orchestra's current goal is to do more than perform, but to also find a way to serve the community. This manuscript collection describes--through newspaper articles, concert programs, and other items--how the organization has been interwoven with the community from its beginning. Although the Armory-Auditorium was utilized by the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra used local school auditoriums for their concerts

before Owens Auditorium was built. Those schools included Alexander Graham Junior High School, Myers Park High School, Mineral Springs High School, and Piedmont Junior High School.

Since the Orchestra's conception, the organization and its affiliates have performed at such community locales as Queens College's Dana Auditorium, the United States Naval Hospital, Davidson College, and the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. While the full organization may not have participated, individual Orchestra conductors and orchestral players have been participants in the Brevard Music Festival Orchestra and the Transylvania Music Camp. They have also performed during local church services including those held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Myers Park Presbyterian Church, and Providence United Methodist Church.

Beyond performing in various locations throughout the region, the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra--as an organization and as individual personnel--participated in collaborative efforts that allowed them to spread music beyond a season's regularly scheduled concerts. The Charlotte Symphony Orchestra collaborated with such artists as Ella Fitzgerald, the Atlanta Ballet Company, and the Carolina Ballet Company. The Orchestra also reached out to other musicians through smaller ensembles such as the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Charlotte Flute Club, the Mint Museum Ensemble, and the Charlotte Chamber Music Players.

## **ACQUISITION**

Donated by Joseph Little, 2007

Processed by Ulonda Slaughter, May 2015.

## **REFERENCES**

Charlotte Flute Association and Flute Choir. "History," 2004.

<http://charlotteflutes.com/history.htm>

Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. "Mission & History."

<http://www.charlottesymphony.org/files/ba2b0d97-fdcb-4c8b-93a5-593ded77f525--a8609306-7345-4ef8-b12a-b11f3f5f3354/press-kit-missionhistory.pdf>

Harry & Bryant Funeral Home. "In Memory of Joseph Little, July 16, 1919-October 13, 2012." <http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity->

## RELATED MATERIALS

Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. *Charlotte Symphony Orchestra [sound recording]; Excerpts from the 1957-1958 Season*. Charlotte, NC: The Orchestra, 1958 (CALL NUMBER: NCR CLASS)

*Music-Classical-Orchestras-Charlotte Symphony Orchestra-Combinations*. (CALL NUMBER: NCR VERTICAL FILES)

*Music-Classical-Orchestras-Charlotte Symphony Orchestra-Conductors*. (CALL NUMBER: NCR VERTICAL FILES)

*Music-Classical-Orchestras-Charlotte Symphony Orchestra-Finances*. (CALL NUMBER: NCR VERTICAL FILES)

*Music-Classical-Orchestras-Charlotte Symphony Orchestra-History and Miscellany*. (CALLNUMBER: NCR VERTICAL FILES)

*Music-Classical-Orchestras-Charlotte Symphony Orchestra-Personnel*. (CALL NUMBER: NCR VERTICAL FILES)

*Music-Classical-Orchestras-Charlotte Symphony Orchestra-Societies*. (CALL NUMBER: NCR VERTICAL FILES)

Whalen, Meg Freeman. *The Sound of Charlotte: The First 75 Years of the Charlotte Symphony/A Commemorative History*. Charlotte, NC: Charlotte, The City Magazine, 2007. (CALL NUMBER: NCR 784.2 W552s)

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Joseph P. Little Symphony Orchestra Records consists of programs from the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and small ensemble groups performing outreach activities. There are also newspaper articles and other publications concerning Symphony performances and musicians; photographs; ephemera; and interviews. The collection spans from 1908-2012, with the bulk of the collection encompassing the 1940s-1980s.

**Advertisements and Brochures, 1935-1985**, includes advertisements and

brochures promoting the orchestra.

**Awards and Recognition, 1984-2005**, includes awards and recognition presented to Joseph Little.

**Biographies, 1908 and 1953**, includes information about past conductors, Roxlo and Springfield.

**Correspondence, 1948**, consists of a single hand-written note from conductor Lamar Springfield.

**Ephemera, 1948**, consists of a car plate.

**Newspaper Articles**, consists of newspaper articles written about the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, its conductors, and its members.

**Programs, 1926-2007**, comprises concert programs for the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and other orchestra-related organizations including the Charlotte Little Theater, the Charlotte Symphony Young Artist, the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra Society.

**Publications, 1955-1981**, consists of issues of the following newsletters: *Charlotte Flute Association NEWS*, *SPONSOR*, and *Symphony Notes*.

**Schedules, 1953 and 1955**, includes orchestra concert schedules.

**Photographs, 1937-1959**, includes photographs of past conductors and orchestras.

**Audio-Visual, 1982**, consists of a CD and tape recording of a WDAV interview of Charlotte Symphony orchestra members.

## **SERIES LIST**

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