Judith Magyar Isaacson papers, 1945-1999

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library
University of New England
716 Stevens Avenue
Portland, Maine 04103
cmiller10@une.edu
URL: http://www.une.edu/mwwc

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Summary Information

Repository:	Maine Women Writers Collection
Creator:	Isaacson, Judith Magyar, 1925-2015
Title:	Judith Magyar Isaacson papers
ID:	0184
Date [inclusive]:	1945-1999
Physical Description:	3 linear feet 129 folders
Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation

Judith Magyar Isaacson papers, Maine Women Writers Collection, University of New England, Portland, Maine

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Biographical/Historical Note

Judith Magyar was born in Kaposvar, Hungary in 1925. In 1944, when she was 19, her family was deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where her grandmothers and an aunt were killed upon arrival. Judith, her mother, and her aunt were then sent to Hessisch Lichtenau, and were finally liberated by American forces in April 1945. Judith met Irving Isaacson, a captain of the U.S. Army Office of Strategic Services in May of 1945, and were married shortly after. The couple moved to the United States in 1946, and settled in Lewiston, Maine. In 1965, Judith earned her Bachelor's Degree in mathematics from Bates College and her Master's Degree in mathematics from Bowdoin College two years later. She taught math at Lewiston High School for three years and in 1969 was hired to be the Dean of Women, and then the Dean of Students in 1975 at Bates College. As dean, Judith was tireless in her efforts to end college practices that were biased against women and emerged as a public advocate for women's rights. She also held a position on the Board of Overseers of Bowdoin from 1984 to 1996. In 1976, after discussing her experiences in the Holocaust with a group of students, Judith was compelled to record the memories. Her memoir, Seed of Sarah: Memoirs of a Survivor, was published by University of Illinois Press in 1990. The book has been translated into several languages and was adapted into an opera and subsequent film. Judith has lectured widely; served on the boards of several institutions, including the Auburn Public

Library; received honorary doctorates from many educational institutions; and was the recipient of the University of New England's Deborah Morton Award and the Hargraves Presentation of Freedom Prize.

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Collection Scope and Content

This collection documents Isaacson's research and writing of Seed of Sarah, her Holocaust memoir. The collection consists of research material, including papers relating to a reunion of former inmates of the Lichtenau concentration camp. Also included are original drafts with editorial comments and revisions, publication documentation, and reviews of the published book. There is also material documenting Isaacson's public appearances, including reactions and correspondence from New England students and teachers.

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Arrangement

Organized into four series: I. Drafts and research; II. Publication and reviews; III. Appearances and students' responses; IV. Memorabilia

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Judith Isaacson papers, Edmund S. Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine

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Controlled Access Headings

- Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
- Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) -- Personal narratives
- Holocaust survivors' writings
- Holocaust survivors
- Lewiston (Me.)
- Research
- Illustrations
- Typescripts
- Book jackets
- Clippings
- Ephemera
- Correspondence
- Reproductions
- Isaacson, Judith Magyar, 1925-2015
- Isaacson, Judith Magyar, 1925-2015
- Hessisch Lichtenau (Concentration camp)

Collection Inventory

Drafts and research

Physical Description: .75 linear feet

Title/Description	Instances	
Research	Box 1	Folder 001
Research in Hungary - Kaposvar, 1977	Box 1	Folder 002
Unused illustrations	Box 1	Folder 003
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 004
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 005
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 006
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 007
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 008
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 009
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 010
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 011
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 012
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 013
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 014
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 015
Research - Lichtenau	Box 1	Folder 016
Research - chronology	Box 1	Folder 017
Drafts, 1990 January	Box 1	Folder 018
Drafts - reader comments	Box 1	Folder 019
Drafts - reader comments	Box 1	Folder 020
Drafts - reader comments	Box 1	Folder 021
Drafts - reader comments	Box 1	Folder 022
Drafts - reader comments	Box 1	Folder 023
Drafts - acknowledgements	Box 1	Folder 024
Drafts - [reader: Daniel Griffin]	Box 1	Folder 025
Drafts - reader: Eva Balogh - notes and letter	Box 1	Folder 026

Drafts - [reader: Ilona Bell]	Box 1	Folder 027
	Box 1	Folder 028
Drafts - outlines	Box 1	Folder 029
Drafts - chapter titles	Box 1	Folder 030
Drafts - Terror of rape	Box 1	Folder 031
Drafts - chapter 2	Box 1	Folder 032
Drafts - chapter 6	Box 1	Folder 033
Drafts, 1987 summer	Box 1	Folder 034
"Seed" book jackets	Box 1	Folder 035
"Seed" on tape [diskettes]	Box 1	Folder 035a

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Publication and reviews

Physical Description: .25 linear feet

Title/Description	Instances	
Yale Review [contract]	Box 1	Folder 036
Yale Review [excerpt]	Box 1	Folder 037
"Seed of Sarah: A Memoir" in The Yale Review, 1984 April	Box 1	Folder 037a
Yale Review - comments	Box 1	Folder 038
TV - radio	Box 1	Folder 039
Barnes	Box 1	Folder 040
Maine - Bangor	Box 1	Folder 041
Maine	Box 1	Folder 042
Maine - Brunswick	Box 1	Folder 044
Maine - schools, libraries, Maine publishers	Box 1	Folder 045
Kliatt teens - Kliatt	Box 1	Folder 046
Teens - young adult	Box 1	Folder 047
Teens - Top Teen	Box 1	Folder 048
Teens - University Press Books	Box 1	Folder 049
Publishers Weekly	Box 1	Folder 050
Women	Box 1	Folder 051
Bowdoin	Box 1	Folder 052

Commonweal, Globe	Box 1	Folder 053
Jewish	Box 1	Folder 054
Hungarian publisher - Kiado - Javita's motto	Box 1	Folder 055
Hungarian publisher - Kiado - Gimnazium	Box 1	Folder 056
Hungarian publisher - Kiado - Magay	Box 1	Folder 057
German publisher - Ekopan [Verlag]	Box 1	Folder 058
German publisher - Allein mit d.k. [chap. 9]	Box 1	Folder 059
German publisher - book readings	Box 1	Folder 060
German publisher - Anja [correspondence]	Box 1	Folder 061
German reviews	Box 1	Folder 062
German reviews - Frankfurt	Box 1	Folder 063
German reviews - Gottingen	Box 1	Folder 064
German reviews - placards - schedule	Box 1	Folder 065

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Appearances and reader responses

Physical Description: .75 linear feet

Title/Description	Instances	
Posters and comments	Box 2	Folder 066
Maine - kids	Box 2	Folder 067
Audience - adult	Box 2	Folder 068
Class reactions	Box 2	Folder 069
Hyde School	Box 2	Folder 070
Teachers' reactions	Box 2	Folder 071
Reactions	Box 2	Folder 072
[Reactions sent] to Ilona, Mark, and John	Box 2	Folder 073
Bookstores	Box 2	Folder 074
Colleges and universities	Box 2	Folder 075
Colleges and universities interview questions and notes, 1997	Box 2	Folder 075a
Elementary and junior high schools	Box 2	Folder 076
Limestone High School	Box 2	Folder 077
Deering H.S.	Box 2	Folder 078

Presque Isle H.S.	Box 2	Folder 079
Gould Academy	Box 2	Folder 080
Messalonskee	Box 2	Folder 081
Catherine McAuley	Box 2	Folder 082
Wayneflete	Box 2	Folder 083
Students - Miscellaneous	Box 2	Folder 084
Class reaction	Box 2	Folder 085
Maine Jewish organizations	Box 2	Folder 086
Maine Catholic/Christian organizations	Box 2	Folder 087
Non-religious based organizations (not schools)	Box 2	Folder 088
Non-religious based organizations - junior and senior high schools	Box 2	Folder 089
not Maine - Jewish organizations	Box 2	Folder 090
Miscellaneous	Box 2	Folder 091
	Box 2	Folder 092
Non Maine events - not religious based, not schools	Box 2	Folder 093
Non Maine events - non religious based schools	Box 2	Folder 094
Not referring to religion, not intimate	Box 2	Folder 095
Refers to Christianity, not intimate	Box 2	Folder 096
U.S. News and World Report	Box 2	Folder 097
School kids' comments	Box 2	Folder 098
School kids' comments	Box 2	Folder 099
Schools	Box 2	Folder 100
First talk and book signing, 1989 November 12	Box 2	Folder 101
Events - Post 1990, 1990-	Box 2	Folder 102
Bates, "Maine Remembers the Shoah", 1997	Box 2	Folder 103a
Seed of Sarah P.R., 1999	Box 2	Folder 104
1990, 1990	Box 2	Folder 105
P.R., 1991	Box 2	Folder 106
Events - p	Box 2	Folder 107
Phillips Academy	Box 2	Folder 108
High schools	Box 2	Folder 109

	Box 2	Folder 110
Maine schools	Box 2	Folder 111
Holocaust remembrances	Box 2	Folder 112
Remarks (more Holocaust)	Box 2	Folder 113
Thank you notes after speeches	Box 2	Folder 114
	Box 2	Folder 115
Pamphlet: Facing history and ourselves	Box 2	Folder 116
[Responses; 1995 opera; 1998 film], 1995-1998	Box 2	Folder 117
Debra G. Fournier, student, review, 1996	Box 2	Folder 118
Debra G. Fournier, student, presentation, 1997	Box 2	Folder 119

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Memorabilia

Physical Description: .75 linear feet

Title/Description	Instances	
Article, Bates College paper, 1969 September 19	Box 2	Folder 120
Inventory of items given to Bates, 1997	Box 2	Folder 121
A.E.F. D.P. Registration Record, 1945 August 11	Box 2	Folder 122
Photocopy of passport, 1945	Box 2	Folder 123
Email to C. Gurley, 2004 December 3	Box 2	Folder 124
ME State Library Holocaust Center Inventory	Box 2	Folder 125

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