

# Guide to the Ralph McCallister Papers

MS 1202



compiled by Nancy L. Fappiano

October 1980

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1202

**CREATOR:** McCallister, Ralph, 1905-

**TITLE:** Ralph McCallister papers

**DATES:** 1951-1983

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.75 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of correspondence and printed matter relating primarily to Ralph McCallister's service as director and vice-president of the Chautauqua Institution (1944-1961). Major correspondents in the papers are Rebecca Richmond who was active in promoting Chautauqua activities and Alburn E. Skinner, a trustee.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1202>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1202>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Ralph McCallister, 1980-1983.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Ralph McCallister Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Ralph McCallister was born in Carmi, Illinois on September 28, 1905. He received his Ph.B. from the University of Chicago in 1930 and his M.A. from the University of Michigan in 1936. From 1936-1948 McCallister directed the Adult Education Council in Chicago. In 1944 he became the Director of Programs and Education, and Vice-President of the Chautauqua Institution, a position he held until 1961. Between 1962 and 1970, McCallister coordinated many programs and projects in adult and higher education in the Carolinas and Virginia. In 1970 he became the Associate Director, Office of Medical Studies at the School of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of Ralph McCallister (1905-) deal primarily with his association with the Chautauqua Institution, where he served as director of programs and education and as vice-president from 1944-1961. The correspondence, 1951-1961, is with both Chautauqua staff and summer visitors. There is a large section of letters to and from Rebecca Richmond, author of *Invitation to Chautauqua*. Mrs. Richmond was responsible for the creation of the Writers' Workshop and the Bell Tower scholarship at Chautauqua.

McCallister resigned his post in 1961, objecting to the manner in which the Chautauqua Institution was being administered. There is a great deal of correspondence concerning the events which led to his retirement and public reaction to his decision to leave Chautauqua.

## Collection Contents

Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1	1951-1955	
b. 1, f. 2	1956-1958	
b. 1, f. 3	1959 Feb-May	
b. 1, f. 4	1959 Aug-Dec	
b. 1, f. 5	1960 English	
b. 1, f. 6	Between Rebecca Richmond and Ralph McCallister	1951-1961
b. 1, f. 7	And memorial tributes concerning the death of Rebecca Richmond	1961
b. 1, f. 8	Alburn E. Skinner	1951-1957
b. 1, f. 9	Concerning the Writers' Workshop, Chautauqua Institute	1951-1960
b. 1, f. 10	1961 Jan-Feb	
b. 1, f. 11	1961 Mar-Dec, n.d.	
b. 2, f. 12	1962-1980, 1983	
b. 2, f. 13	n.d.	
b. 2, f. 14	<i>Invitation to Chautauqua: financial and publicity material</i> English	1953
b. 2, f. 15	Reference material concerning Chautauqua Institute	1961-1963
b. 2, f. 16	Resume and employment information of Ralph McCallister	1961-1980
b. 2, f. 17	Reprints, clippings, reviews, and other printed material	1955-1966

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Adult education  
Education  
Educators

### **Names**

McCallister, Ralph, 1905-  
Richmond, Rebecca, d. 1961  
Skinner, Alburn Edward, 1872-1958

### **Corporate Body**

Chautauqua Institution