

# Clara Mayer papers

Collection, NS020102

## About

Clara Woolie Mayer (1895-1988) held a long affiliation with the New School: as a student, as a trustee, and then in administrative roles, including dean of the School of Philosophy and Liberal Arts (1943-1961) and vice president of the New School for Social Research (1950-1961). Dating largely from 1950 to the early 1960s, the collection consists of subject files pertaining to programs, departments, and New School faculty and administration.

Of note is Mayer's correspondence, largely related to teaching and lectures, with well-known figures, including W.E.B. Du Bois, Albert Einstein, Berenice Abbott, Alvin Johnson, John Cage and Erich Fromm. There is also a wealth of material relating to Mayer's contributions to post-war European relief efforts. Finally, the collection contains typescript writings by Mayer, including articles, speeches, commencement addresses and translations. Some files are restricted. Please email [archivist@newschool.edu](mailto:archivist@newschool.edu) for details.

## Collection Guide

[Guide to the Clara Mayer papers](#)

There's more! What you see here is only what is viewable online; in most cases it is only a small portion of what is available. Please visit the collection guide to find out more.

---

### Collection Contents

#### **Clara Mayer papers** (28 records)

- Letter from Hans Simons to Erich Fromm
- Frieda Wunderlich and New School Student Stina Thornell
- Cedric Dover correspondence
- John Cage Subject File
- Letter from Huang Wen Shan to Saul Padover
- Charles Leirens subject file
- Max Fischer Subject File
- Berenice Abbott subject file
- Curriculum Vitae of Frieda Wunderlich
- Letter from Alvin Johnson to Clara Mayer
- The New School Tradition
- The Need to Write
- The New School Celebrates Its Second Anniversary
- The Romance of Housing
- The Graduate Faculty
- Speech on Alvin Johnson

A Deep Identity: Commencement 1953  
Commencement Address, 1954  
Side Effects  
Time and History  
Commencement 1957  
On the Naming of the Alvin Johnson Building Retrospect and Prospect  
Commencement - June 5, 1951 Remarks  
Commencement Address  
Commencement, 1960  
Commencement 1961  
Letter from Jane Jacobs to Clara Mayer  
Ruth Florsheim Correspondence

**Subject Files (NS020102.02)** (12 records)

Letter from Huang Wen Shan to Saul Padover  
Frieda Wunderlich and New School Student Stina Thornell  
Curriculum Vitae of Frieda Wunderlich  
John Cage Subject File  
Letter from Hans Simons to Erich Fromm  
Berenice Abbott subject file  
Cedric Dover correspondence  
Charles Leirens subject file  
Max Fischer Subject File  
Letter from Alvin Johnson to Clara Mayer  
Letter from Jane Jacobs to Clara Mayer  
Ruth Florsheim Correspondence

**Writings (NS020102.03)** (16 records)

The New School Tradition  
The New School Celebrates Its Second Anniversary  
The Romance of Housing  
The Graduate Faculty  
Speech on Alvin Johnson  
A Deep Identity: Commencement 1953  
Commencement Address, 1954  
Side Effects  
Time and History  
Commencement 1957  
On the Naming of the Alvin Johnson Building Retrospect and Prospect  
Commencement - June 5, 1951 Remarks  
Commencement Address  
Commencement, 1960  
Commencement 1961  
The Need to Write