



Special Collections and University Archives

**Eunice McCloskey Collection
Manuscript Group 3**

**For Scholarly Use Only
Last Modified January 29, 2024**

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Eunice McCloskey Collection, Manuscript Group 3
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
1 box; 0.5 linear feet

Biographical Note

Artist, author, poet, and painter Eunice LonCoske McCloskey (May 25, 1904-August 1983) was born at Ridgway in Elk County, Pennsylvania. Her parents were Frederick and Ada LonCoske. She married Lewis F. McCloskey on January 9, 1932. Their daughter, Eunice “Mimi” Marie McCloskey Minter, graduated from Indiana State College (IUP) in 1964.

Eunice McCloskey graduated from Centennial High School, and she attended Columbia University where she studied poetry and English for one year before she began writing and painting professionally. She was a published author, writing 17 books, creating more than 4,000 paintings, and she was awarded three national poetry awards. She was also awarded the National League of American Pen Women, Associated Artists prizes (1950, 1953), the Henry Posner Prize (1953) and the Aime Jackson Short Prize for watercolor (1956).

Eunice McCloskey was also a member of the International Institute of Arts and Letters, the Professional and Executive Hall of Fame, National League of American Pen Women, Associated Artists of Pittsburgh (director), the Pennsylvania Federation for Women, the Philadelphia Art Alliance, and Delta Kappa Gamma. Eunice McCloskey maintained a painting and drawing studio at Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania. She became known as the “Grandma Moses of Pennsylvania” and she passed away in August 1983 at her home in Ridgway, Pennsylvania.

Scope and Content

The collection contains biographical information, awards, books, correspondence, newspaper articles, notebooks, and photographs. Approximately 20 of her paintings are part of the permanent collection in the University Museum.

Provenance

This archival collection was donated by the University Museum in 2014.

Restrictions

None, this collection is open to the public.

Processor

The collection was organized and the collection finding aid was written in 2014.

Container List

Box 1 (9 folders)

1. Biographical Information about Eunice McCloskey
2. Eunice McCloskey: Awards and Correspondence, 1975-1977
3. Eunice McCloskey: Newspaper Articles, 1976-1978
4. Spiral-bound Book: *There Should Have Been Music* by Eunice McCloskey (inscribed, 3 copies)
5. Publications:
 - a. Spiral-bound Book: *The End of the Road* (1979) by Eunice McCloskey (inscribed)

- b. Pamphlet: *This is my art* by Eunice McCloskey (Volume Two), no date
6. Notebook of manuscript *The Last Furrow* by Eunice McCloskey, n.d.
7. Eunice McCloskey: Photographs from Thiel College and IUP
8. Eunice McCloskey Paintings distributed by Marie Davis' estate from auction, Meyer and Wagner Attorneys, information donated by Dr. Ruth Riesenman, 1997-1998
9. Scrapbook pages including newspaper articles and correspondence (1972-1973) from Eunice McCloskey, donated by McCloskey's student American artist Renée Fleming in 2023-2024

Oversized Items

1. *Pittsburgh Press*: Sunday Roto, "Eunice McCloskey: Painter and Poet" by Connie Kienzie, December 7, 1969 (framed, 24x36)

The following books were removed from the collection and cataloged as part of the Pennsylvania Collection in the IUP Special Collections & University Archives:

1. McCloskey, Eunice, (1952). *The Golden Hill*. Boston: Bruce Humphries Publishers. Inscribed, Call Number: PS 3525 .A1584 G65 1952 (2 copies)
2. McCloskey, Eunice. (1964). *So dear to my heart*. Boston: Bruce Humphries Publishers. Inscribed, Call Number: PS 3525 .A1584 Z52 1964
3. McCloskey, Eunice. (1966). *Potpourri: An autobiography*. Philadelphia, PA: Dorrance & Company. Inscribed, Call Number: PS 3525 .A1584 P6 1966 (2 copies)
4. McCloskey, Eunice