

Lincoln University Collection (AC102)

Introduction:

The Lincoln University Collection contains original documents produced by Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO.

Descriptive Summary:

Creator: Lincoln University

Title: Lincoln University Collection

Date Range: 1933- 1999

Size: 1.417 linear feet (1 box)

Collection Number: AC102

Donor Information:

Found in Collection

Citation Note:

Lincoln University (AC102), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri

Related Collections:

AC47 Felix Payne Collection

AC74 Kansas & Missouri College Yearbooks Collection

Administrative Information:

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted

Access Restrictions: Unrestricted

Historical Sketch:

Lincoln University

Lincoln University, a Historically Black College (HBCU) in Jefferson City, MO, originally Lincoln Institute, was founded in September 1866, at the end of the Civil War, by Civil War veterans of the 62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantries. In 1879, the Institute became a

state school, and in 1890 when the Institute became a land-grant institution thanks to the Morrill Act 1890, this act allowed states to establish colleges and universities through the sale of land grants. The name was changed to Lincoln University in 1921; graduate level classes were not available to students until 1940. The University desegregated in 1954, following *Brown v the Board of Education*.

The Kansas City America

The Kansas City America newspaper operated from 1928-1941 in Kansas City, MO. It was published by Felix Payne and Dr. William J. Thompkins, whose father had previously been enslaved. In 1932, Thompkins became the President of the National Colored Democratic Association and helped FDR become President of the United States. A year later, Roosevelt chose him to become Recorder of Deeds.

Scope and Content Note:

The newspapers are very fragile. Handle with extreme care. *A History of Lincoln University* by Sherman W. Savage donated by Stephen Hough removed to Library and available upon request.

Collection Inventory:

- f. 1 Photographs
- f. 2 Pamphlets and Advertising
- f. 3 Unity Awards in Media, 1980, 1999
- f. 4 Lincoln University in Pictures, 1949
- f. 5 Class Memories, 1948
- f. 6 Harambee, 1975
- f. 7 *The Kansas City American*, Section B, August 24, 1933 (3 copies)

Processed by Laura Darnell, Archivist, July 2024.

Sources:

“Chester Arthur Franklin | the Pendergast Years,” n.d. <https://pendergastkc.org/articles/chester-arthur-franklin>.

“Dr. William J. Thompkins | the Pendergast Years,” n.d. <https://pendergastkc.org/articles/dr-william-j-thompkins>.

_lincolnu.edu. “Our History,” n.d. <https://www.lincolnu.edu/about-lincoln/our-history.html>.

The Library of Congress. “The Kansas City American (Kansas City, Mo.) 1928-1936,” n.d. <https://www.loc.gov/item/sn90061553/>.