

Candidate Fannin Saffore Belcher, Jr.

Special Field Drama

Assistant Professor of English and Director of Dramatics West Virginia State College, Institute.

Plan of Work

To concentrate upon those technical phases of playwriting, play directing, production and stage lighting which would develop those skills necessary in the promotion of artistic standards in Negro drama, and in the continuation of special experiments in make-up for the Negro Little Theatre.

Seeking Ph. D. from Yale University. Duration of study two years, to begin September, 1938. Will return to present position. Under Clarence Kiecol

Digest of Application

Born September, 1908, Savannah, Georgia. Single.

A. B. from Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, 1928. M. A. from University of Pennsylvania, 1930.

Experience: Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, English instructor, 1928-30, \$1,000; Virginia Union University, Richmond, instructor, summer 1930, \$450; West Virginia State College, assistant professor of English and director of dramatics, 1930-38, salary ranging from \$1,620 to \$2,100.

Creative works: survey of the status of dramatics in Negro high schools; three full length plays, The Gypsy Charm, Deal a Hand, Roll Your Own.

Activities at West Virginia College: founder and director of The High School Players Association, editor of a monthly drama News Letter, organizer and director of the Summer Playhouse and of the Tri-State Drama League.

References

Budget Summary

- Dr. John W. Davis, President, West Virginia State College
- ✓ Mr. David A. Lane, Jr., Dean, Louisville Municipal College
- ✓ Mr. David Kirby, Secretary, State Board of Education, W.Va.
- ✓ Mr. C. R. Boothby, Dramatic director, Fort Chester, N.Y.
- Mr. Sterling Brown, Dramatics, Howard University

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Total amount needed | \$2,569.80 |
| From applicant      | 150.00     |
| From Fund           | \$2,419.80 |
| Granted             | \$2,000.   |

Committee Notes

Wrote Arthur Quinn & need reply - also re budget reduction

Documents submitted

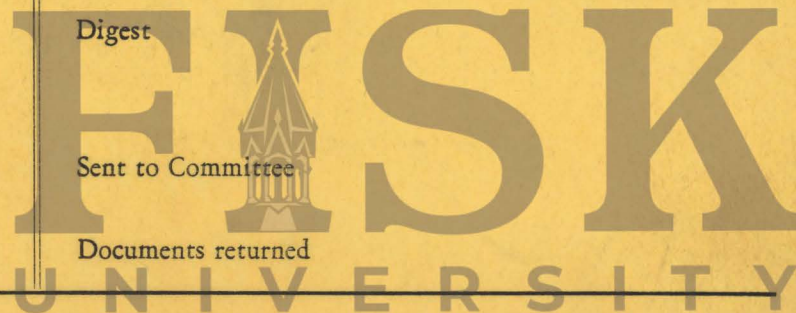
- Photograph x
- Exhibit material x
- Transcripts x
- Lincoln University
- University of Pennsylvania

Plan of work x

Digest

Sent to Committee

Documents returned



Special Field Drama

Candidate: Nathan Barlowe Bolsher, Jr.

Assistant Professor of English and Director of Dramatics, West Virginia State College, Institute.

Plan of Work

To concentrate upon those technical phases of play directing, production and stage lighting which would develop those skills necessary in the production of artistic standards in Negro drama, and in the continuation of special experiments in make-up for the Negro Little Theatre.

Seeking Ph. D. from Yale University. Duration of study two years, to begin September, 1938. Will return to present position. Budget large. Very necessary. esp.

Digest of Application: Two references. (1) Does he want him? What do people at Penn. think about him?

A. B. from Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, 1928. N. A. from University of Pennsylvania, 1928.

Arthur Hobson Quinn at Pa. data on him. M. Candler has his best play to decide whether they would be his best idea?

Elk

Virginia State College, assistant professor of English and director of drama, 1930-32, salary ranging from \$1,620 to \$2,100. Thinks a bit flamboyant.

Creative work: survey of the status of drama in Negro high schools; three full length plays, The Gypsy Queen, Deal a Hand, Roll Your Own.

4/16 - grad and director of the School Play Association, editor of a monthly and has been director of the Summer Playhouse and of the Tri-State Drama League.

Budget Summary

References

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| From Fund           | \$2,419.80 |
| From applicant      | 150.00     |
| Total amount needed | \$2,569.80 |

Granted

Committee Notes

Best idea to use the grant for the production of the play to be decided on by the committee and the director of the playhouse.

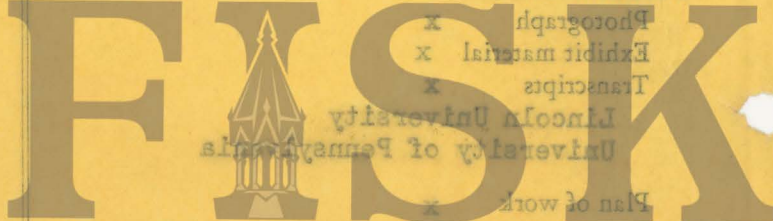
Digest

Documents submitted

Sent to Committee

Documents returned

Plan of work



UNIVERSITY

ROBERT C. BEEMON

Teacher of Mathematics, Holmes High School  
Covington, Kentucky

Education

Very good scholastic record

Excellent letters

A swell thesis "beginning & ending  
the two faces together"

This able native Kentuckian with  
Southern school teaching experience  
ought make a very notable contribution  
while I have a prejudice against T.C.  
I imagine this is as good a place as  
any for supervision of the study and  
for obtaining the Ph.D. (toward which letter  
already has a good deal of work behind him)

A -

BELCHER, FANNIN S., JR.

Mr. Belcher obtained leave of absence for a third year from West Virginia State College in order to continue his work at Yale University. He hopes to obtain his Ph. D. degree in June of 1941. 9/24/40

Mr. Belcher is professor of Drama and Director of the College Theatre, West Virginia State College. He has established a drama department at the college. He has also inaugurated a study of recreational activities as related to juvenile delinquency in West Virginia. 10/9/44



RENEWAL

FANNIN S. BELCHER (N) 30

Drama

1939 \$570 granted

Good letters from [unclear] from  
his professors at Yale.

He projected book on "The Negro and  
the American Theatre" sound ideas

- A second year would doubtless  
do him more than twice as  
much good as a single year

A solid workman rather than  
a genius

Asking for \$1,800

(last year he had \$2,000; so this year's  
request is modest)

Yes

BELCHER, FANNIN S., JR.

WRITINGS AND PUBLICATIONS

"Selected Bibliography for Amateur Dramatics," compiled in 1939.

"Negro Musical Shows, Quo Vadis," autumn issue, 1939, of The Arts Quarterly.

"Our Negro Drama," October, 1939, Opportunity.



FANNIN SAFFORE BELCHER

Student, Yale University (Reappointment)

Drama

Very strong letters from Nicoll  
and De Mullan at Yale

Since he is apparently unmarried  
would not last years grant of \$1500  
be sufficient - rather than the 1800 had

A third year grant will take a very  
strong case. We gave it to Jean  
but he was a man in a million  
do not sure Belcher is that sort

JW  
1939  
1938

JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

Age 50

(RENEWAL)

Candidate Fannin Saffore Belcher, Jr. Special Field Drama

Assistant Professor of English and Director of Dramatics  
West Virginia State College, Institute (on leave)  
45 Dickerman Street, New Haven, Connecticut

Plan of Work  
To continue to concentrate upon those technical and creative phases of playwriting, play directing, production, stage lighting and make-up which will develop those skills so necessary in the promotion of artistic standards in Negro drama.

To continue work on Ph.D. at Yale.

Digest of Application

Born September, 1908, Savannah, Georgia.

A. B. Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, 1928. M. A. University of Pennsylvania, 1930.

English instructor, Lincoln University, 1928-30, \$1000; assistant professor of English and director of dramatics, West Virginia State College, 1938 - , \$1620 - \$2100.

*Writing a book "Negro and the American Theatre".  
Rep p 4 of his report with renewal application.*

References

Mr. Allardyce Nicoll, Yale University  
Mr. Walter P. Eaton, Yale University  
Mr. Frank McHullan, Yale University

Budget Summary

Total amount needed \$ 1800  
From applicant ---  
From Fund \$ 1800

Committee Notes

Granted \$1500

Documents submitted

- Photograph
- Exhibit material
- Transcripts

Plan of work

Digest

Sent to Committee

Documents returned



JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

30

Age

Prize

Special Field

Yarnell Gifford Belmont, Jr.

Candidate

Assistant Professor of English and Director of Dramatic West Virginia State College, Martinsburg (on leave) 45 Mechanic Street, New Haven, Connecticut

Plan of Work

To continue to concentrate upon those technical and creative phases of playwriting, play directing, production, stage lighting and make-up which will develop those skills so necessary in the production of artistic standards in stage drama.

To continue work on the play now being worked on by him and his group at the University of Pennsylvania in 1938 and 1939 and 1940 and 1941 and 1942 and 1943 and 1944 and 1945 and 1946 and 1947 and 1948 and 1949 and 1950 and 1951 and 1952 and 1953 and 1954 and 1955 and 1956 and 1957 and 1958 and 1959 and 1960 and 1961 and 1962 and 1963 and 1964 and 1965 and 1966 and 1967 and 1968 and 1969 and 1970 and 1971 and 1972 and 1973 and 1974 and 1975 and 1976 and 1977 and 1978 and 1979 and 1980 and 1981 and 1982 and 1983 and 1984 and 1985 and 1986 and 1987 and 1988 and 1989 and 1990 and 1991 and 1992 and 1993 and 1994 and 1995 and 1996 and 1997 and 1998 and 1999 and 2000 and 2001 and 2002 and 2003 and 2004 and 2005 and 2006 and 2007 and 2008 and 2009 and 2010 and 2011 and 2012 and 2013 and 2014 and 2015 and 2016 and 2017 and 2018 and 2019 and 2020 and 2021 and 2022 and 2023 and 2024 and 2025 and 2026 and 2027 and 2028 and 2029 and 2030 and 2031 and 2032 and 2033 and 2034 and 2035 and 2036 and 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Name Belcher, Fannin S., Jr. (1908) Negro  White Southerner

Position Assistant Professor of English and Director of Dramatics, West Virginia State College, Institute of Fine Arts Group Drama

College Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, A. B., 1928:

University University of Pennsylvania, M. A., 1930; Howard University, summer 1929

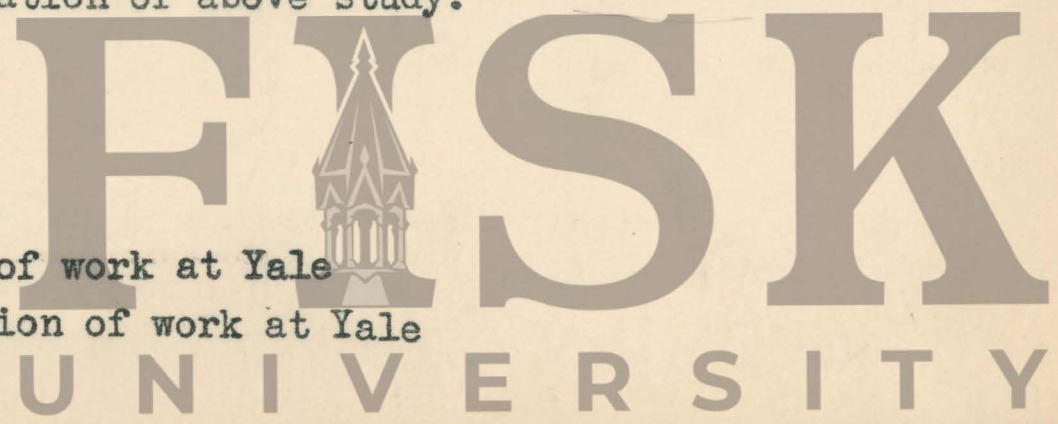
Plan of Work:

1938 To concentrate upon those technical phases of playwriting, play directing, production and stage lighting which would develop those skills necessary in the promotion of artistic standards in Negro drama, and in the continuation of special experiments in make-up for the Negro Little Theatre. Seeking Ph. D., Yale University.

1939 Renewed for 1939 for continuation of above study.

Action of Fellowship Committee:

Granted \$2,000 for one year of work at Yale  
 Granted \$1,500 for continuation of work at Yale



Pa.

Instructor in English, Lincoln University, 1928-30; assistant professor and director of dramatics, West Virginia State College, 1930-.

Has written three full-length plays: "Gypsy Charm," "Deal a Hand," "Roll Your Own," and numerous one-act plays.

A Selected Bibliography for Amateur Dramatics - compiled 1939

Mr. Belcher is making an exhaustive study, "The Negro: His Theatre and His Critics," and this subject has been accepted as his dissertation topic. 10/7/39

West Virginia State College  
Institute, West Virginia

FISK  
  
UNIVERSITY