

LEE HAYS

Free lance songwriter and singer
60 Morton Street
New York, New York

Folklore

Top man

All references very enthusiastic
especially Alan Lomax

His asking is modest

Sim for him (though Sim a bit
fed up on these underplanned
protesters + folk singers)

Name Lee Hays

Field: Folklore

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Plan of Work To collect songs currently being written by unknown modern folk songwriters, especially those dealing with problems of the day -- discrimination, Negro-white understanding, etc., -- and to make these songs available to other singers and library collections; and to publish and record the songs for public use.

Requests grant for twelve months beginning June 1947.

Personal Data Born Little Rock, Arkansas
Widowed, no dependents

Age: 33
Draft Status: 4F

Undergraduate Work

Special study: Since graduation from high school self-educated by intensive reading in literature, history, sociology; and by research work done in preparation for songwriting, the writing of folk concerts, etc.

Graduate Work

Experience Executive secretary, People's Songs, Inc., New York City, 1945-46, \$2500; aside from occasional jobs not in the field of American culture, has worked mostly as a free-lance writer and singer. Such work includes broadcasts for the OWI, BBC and CBS; recordings (Disc, Keynote, General).

Accomplishments Research: Research on Elaine Massacre (1919) summarized as chapter in forthcoming volume by Harold Preece. Research for composer Earl Robinson for cantata 'The Lonesome Train'. Numerous songs such as: Rankin Tree, Jim Crow, This Old World is in a Sad Condition, Walk Along Together, Henry Blue, etc; writing of narration for folk concerts. Has published songs and articles chiefly in the Bulletin of People's Songs (Vol. 1, nos. 1-11, 1946)

References

Don West, Oglethorpe University, Georgia
Abraham Veinus, Clarence Barker Fellow, Columbia University
Peter Seeger, National Director, People's Songs, Inc., New York City
Alan Lomax, Guggenheim Fellow in folklore, Decca Records, New York
Walter Lowenfels, writer, Philadelphia, Pa.

Budget Summary

Total Amount Needed	\$2190
From Applicant	500
From Fund	\$1690

Sent to Committee

AMOUNT GRANTED

