

1948

Name: Pearl Eileene Primus

Negro

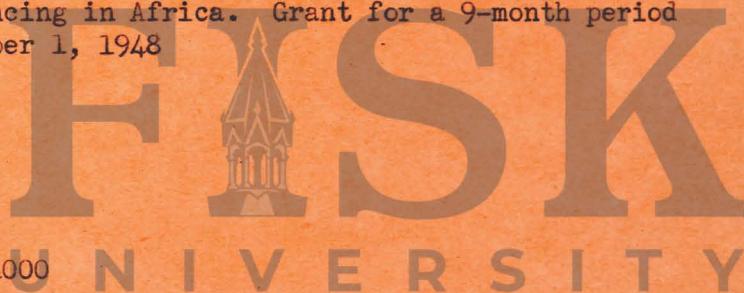
Dancing

Positon: Dancer, New York City

College: Hunter College, B.A., 1940
New York University, 1940-41
Hunter College, 1941-43
Columbia University, 1945-

Plan of Work: study
to ~~do~~ African dancing in Africa. Grant for a 9-month period
beginning September 1, 1948

Action of Committee: Granted \$4000



PEARL EILEENE PRIMUS

Dancer
Brooklyn, New York

Dancing

No doubt that this is one of
the finest of current dancers.
She is sketchy in her application.
When she says she wants to study
anthropology, is she just copying
Katherine Dunham?

Her asking is absurd

total needed	\$ 10,000
from offertory	4,000
from fund	<u>3,500</u> !

She probably a bit cracked, but lets
discuss her again, and maybe
get acquainted with her when
Hilda goes to lunch.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Name Pearl Eileene Primus Field: Dancing
 Solo dancer, Pearl Primus Company
 536 Madison Street, Brooklyn, New York

Plan of Work To continue to express the history and culture of the Negro people through the medium of the dance; to develop and train a group to assist candidate in this field.

Requests grant for one year beginning June 1947. Wishes to attend Columbia University to work for Ph. D. degree under Gene Weltfish in the department of anthropology.

Personal Data Born Trinidad, British West Indies, November, 1920 Age: 27
 Single, one partial dependent Draft Status: None

Undergraduate Work Hunter College, B.A., 1940

Special study: Study of dance with Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman

Graduate Work New York University, 1940-41
 Hunter College, 1941-43
 Columbia University, 1945- (currently working for Ph.d. in anthropology)

Experience Solo dancer, Cafe Society, New York City, 1943-44, \$3200; solo concerts, major cities east of the Mississippi River, 1944-, \$350-\$750 per concert; soloist with Primus Company, during week, October 4-11, 1944, Broadway Debut, Belasco Theatre, \$1000; with Primus Company at Roxy Theatre, New York, November 29-December 23, 1944, \$750 a week; featured dancer, "Show Boat", Ziegfield Theatre, New York, January - November 1946, \$350 a week; witch dancer (featured soloist) "Emperor Jones", Chicago Opera Company, co-starred with Tibbett, (no amount stated).

Accomplishments New Dance Group (largest organization of its type in the world); American Negro Theatre.

The entire concert program of dances are created by candidate as result of research in dances of Africa, West Indies, and America.

Publications: "African Dance", Dance Magazine, July 1946

Scholarship: Scholarship in the dance - New Dance Group - May 1941 - January 1944
 (Given classes in exchange for cleaning studio)

References

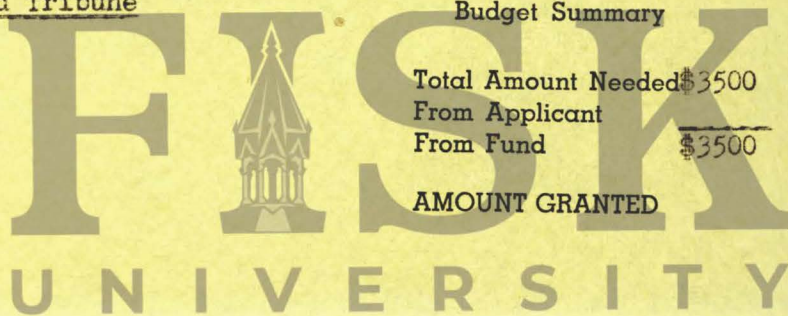
Charles Weidman, dancer and teacher, New York City
 Kenneth Spencer, singer, New York City
 John Martin, dance editor, New York Times
 Walter Terry, dance critic, New York Herald Tribune

Budget Summary

Total Amount Needed \$3500
 From Applicant
 From Fund \$3500

AMOUNT GRANTED

Sent to Committee



Name Pearl Eileen Primus Field: Dancing

Dancer
536 Madison Street, Brooklyn 21, New York

Plan of Work To interpret James Weldon Johnson's "Gods Trombones" (a collection of Negro sermons in verse) through the medium of the dance. To express the poem "Go Down Death" as a dynamic and hypnotic story of people seeking comfort for their grief. I especially chose this for its timeliness and universality in a world still torn by suffering.

Requests grant for one year beginning June 1948. Wishes to work toward the Ph.D. degree in Anthropology at Columbia University under the supervision of Gene Weltfish.

Applied in 1947.

Personal Data Born Trinidad, British West Indies, November 1921 Age: 26
Single, one partial dependent Draft Status:

Undergraduate Work Hunter College, B.A., 1940

Graduate Work New York University, 1940-41
Hunter College, 1941-43
Columbia University, 1945-Experience Solo dancer, Cafe Society, N.Y., 1943-44, \$3200; solo concerts, New York, Newark, Chicago, Washington, New Haven, 1944- , \$3200; soloist with company, Broadway debut, Belasco Theatre, Oct. 4-11, 1944, \$2000; soloist with company, Roxy Theatre, N.Y., Nov. 29-Dec. 23, 1944, \$750 weekly; featured dancer, Show Boat, Ziegfield Theatre, N.Y., Jan. 1-November 2, 1946, \$350 weekly; featured witch doctor, Emperor Jones, Chicago Civic Opera, Oct. 4-11, 1946, \$200; soloist, concert tour with company, November, 1946 to February, 1947, \$3000.

Accomplishments Created two entire concert programs of dances as result of research in dances of Africa, West Indies, America.

Publications "African Dance", Dance Magazine, July 1946.

Scholarships New Dance Group scholarship, May 1941 to Jan. 1944, given classes in return for work done.

References

John Martin, New York Times
Walter Terry, New York Herald Tribune

Sent to Committee

Budget Summary

Total Amount Needed	\$10000
From Applicant	4000
From Fund	\$ 3500

AMOUNT GRANTED 4000