JAMES THEODORE WARD

Free-lance writer
Acting Director, South Side Community Theatre
621 East 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois

Drama

Not tops
The Negro Community Theater (while very deserving) is a project, not development of an individual.
His play writing is certainly not spoken of as distinguished

FISK UNIVERSITY

1944 RR

Name James Theodore Ward **Field:** Drama

Free-lance writer; Acting Director, South Side Community Theatre
621 East 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois

Plan of Work

Prior to March 1, 1944 will complete first draft of Fellowship Play. Subsequently, working in consultation with South Side Community Art Center's Activities Advisory Committee, full time will be devoted to organizational tasks: 1) mobilization of sponsor's committee; 2) promotion of financial campaign to defray cost of equipment and remodeling of theatre site; 3) organization of audience and production of said play.

Requests grant for one year beginning May, 1944.

Personal Data Born Thibodeaux, Louisiana, September, 1902. **Age:** 42
Married, one child.

Undergraduate Work University of Wisconsin, 1931-33.

Graduate Work
Professional: New Theatre League, 1939-40.
Extension Division, University of Utah, 1930-31.

Experience Staff artist, Radio Station WIBA, Madison, Wisconsin, 12 weeks 1933, $20 per hour; instructor dramatics, Lincoln Centre, Chicago, Illinois, 1935-37, $1020; actor, Federal Theatre, Chicago, Illinois, 1937-40, $1120; organizer-president, Negro Playwrights Company, Lincoln Theatre, New York City, 1940-41, $2600; actor, Provincetown Theatre, New York City, December, 1940-March, 1941, cooperative.

Accomplishments Plays produced: Deliver the Goods, Greenwich House, New York City, 1942; Big White Fog, Negro Playwrights, New York City, 1940; also by Federal Theatre, Chicago, 1938; Skin Deep, Federal Inn Theatre Group, Cleveland, Ohio, 1940; Sick and Tiahd, Cleveland Recreational Project, WPA, 1938; also as amateur productions in Chicago, Cleveland, 1937-38.

Publications: Articles and short stories in Common Outlook, Negro Digest, New Theatre Sketches, New Theatre Magazine, Point, Real Detective, Abbots Monthly.

Zona Gale Scholarship, tuition and $25 per month, University of Wisconsin, 1931-33.

References
Pauline Kigh Reed, 3831 So. Michigan, Chicago
Frazier T. Lane, Chicago Urban League
Langston Hughes, New York City
Alfred Kreymborg, New York City
Hallie Flanagan, Vassar College

Budget Summary

Total Amount Needed	$2,000
From Applicant	–
From Fund	$2,000

Sent to Committee **AMOUNT GRANTED**

FISK UNIVERSITY

1947 RL

Name James Theodore Ward Field: Drama

Playwright, 717 Monroe Street
Brooklyn 21, New York

Plan of Work To consult documents of Frederick Douglass at the Library of Congress pertaining to the life of John Brown, and on the basis of that research write a play about the latter.

Requests grant for one year beginning June 1947

Applied 1944

Personal Data Born Thibodeaux, Louisiana, September 1902 Age: 44
Married, two dependents Draft Status: 4H

Undergraduate Work University of Utah (extension division) 1930-31
University of Wisconsin, 1931-33
Professional: New Theatre League, 1939-40
Special study: Theatre Guild of New York (Seminar in Playwrighting under Kenneth Rowe of University of Michigan) 1945-46.
~~Graduate Work~~
Publications: Critique, Mainstream, Jan. 1947; Excerpt from Big White Fog, pub., Negro Caravan (Dryden Press, 1942); "Idea for a Negro Theatre", Common Outlook, 1943; "Even the Dead Arise,", New Theatre Skits and Sketches, 1938; "Future of Negro Theatre", New Theatre Magazine, 1938; articles in Oct. '40 Negro Digest, 1933 Point; March 1932 Real Detective, etc.
Experience Staff artist, Radio Station, IBA, Madison, Wisconsin, 12 weeks, 1933, $20 per hour; instructor dramatics, Recreational Project, Lincoln Center, Chicago, 1935-37, $1020; playwright-instructor, Federal Theatre, Chicago, 1937-40, $1120; president-actor, Negro Playwrights Co. (defunct), 1940-41, $2600; associate editor, "Mainstream" Carver School, New York City, 1946. (no amount given).

Accomplishments Represented Wisconsin University at Northwestern Poetry Festival; member of Dramatist Guild, and Associated Playwrights - the latter consisting of 9 playwrights selected as most outstanding in 1945 by Theatre Guild of New York; Plays: "Ouah Lan"- Winner of Theatre Guild Award, 1945; "Deliver the Goods," produced by Greenwich House, N.Y., 1942; "Big White Fog", produced by Federal Theatre, 1938 and Negro Playwrights Co., N. Y., 1940; Radio Script Writer for State Department's "Radio Teatro de America", 1946.
Fellowships: Theatre Guild Award, $500, 20 week seminar, 1945-46; Zona Gale Scholarship, $25 per mo. and tuition, 1931-32; 32-33; The New Theatre School, Tuition, 1939-40.

References

Langston Hughes, author, New York City
Kenneth Rowe, University of Michigan
Theresa Helburn, The Theatre Guild, New York City
Gail Martin, Utah Symphony, Salt Lake City, Utah

Budget Summary

Total Amount Needed $1800
From Applicant
From Fund $1800

AMOUNT GRANTED

Sent to Committee

FISK UNIVERSITY