



## **CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES**

**Inventory of the  
Mavor Moore fonds**

**Inventory #F0359**

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## F0359 - Mavor Moore fonds

**Fonds/Collection Number:** F0359

**Title:** Mavor Moore fonds

**Dates:** 1920-2006

**Extent:** 34.86 m of textual records  
 10 film reels  
 16 video cassettes  
 20 audio reels  
 ca. 900 photographs : b&w and neg. ; 27 x 34 cm or smaller  
 38 audio discs (ca. 35 hrs) : vinyl, 33 1/3 rpm ; 40.5 cm  
 12 drawings : pencil, some charcoal ; 37 x 29 cm or smaller  
 112 posters  
 42 audio cassettes

**Biographical Sketch/ Administrative History:** James Mavor Moore (1919-2006), actor, writer, critic, educator and public servant, was born in Toronto on 8 March 1919 and educated at the University of Toronto where he received his BA in 1941. He served in Intelligence during the Second World War following which he was employed by CBC radio as producer for its International Service in Montreal. He moved to CBC Television in 1950 serving as its first chief producer. He produced, directed or appeared in over fifty stage plays in Canada as well as in radio and television dramas and was the winner of three Peabody Awards for radio documentaries that he directed for the United Nations. Moore created over one hundred works for stage, radio and television including the musicals 'Sunshine Town' (1954), 'The Ottawa Man' (1958), 'Louis Riel' (an opera with Harry Somers as composer, 1967), and 'Fauntleroy' (1980). He worked with his mother, Dora Mavor Moore in founding the New Play Society and served as producer-director of 'Spring Thaw,' its annual comedy revue from 1948 to 1965. He was drama critic for the Toronto Telegram from 1958 to 1960 and was arts critic for Maclean's magazine from 1968 to 1969. Moore is the author of numerous published works including the autobiography 'Reinventing Myself' and 13 dramatic and musical works. In 1970 he was appointed a professor in the Faculty of Fine Arts, York University and served as chair of the Theatre Department from 1975 to 1976. Moore served on the Canada Council (1974-1983), including a term as its chair (1979-1983). He also served as the founding chair of the British Columbia Arts Council (1996-1998). He sat on the first Board of Governors of the Stratford Festival, was the founding chair of the Canadian Theatre Centre, the Guild of Canadian Playwrights, and was a founding director of the Charlottetown Festival. Moore was recognized for his work with seven honorary degrees, awarded the Centennial Medal in 1967, and made an officer of the Order of Canada in 1973 and a companion of the Order of Canada in 1988. In 1999, he received a Governor-General's Award for Lifetime Achievement and was elected to the Order of British Columbia. Mavor Moore passed away in Victoria, B.C. on December 18th, 2006.

**Scope and Content:** The fonds consists of material that documents Moore's activities as actor, writer, critic, educator and public servant. It documents his careers with the Canada Council, the British Columbia Arts Council, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), the New Play Society, 'Spring Thaw' and the Charlottetown Festival, and includes correspondence, manuscripts, scores, minutes of meetings, speeches, reports, clippings, photographs and other audio-visual materials. Records have been intellectually arranged into the following series:

S00337	Moore family files
S00338	Correspondence and subject files
S00339	Arts administration files
S00340	Charlottetown Festival files
S00341	Works by others
S00342	Academic and teaching files
S00343	Writing and production files
S00344	New Play Society files

## F0359 - Mavor Moore fonds

**Custodial History:** Accession 1986-005 was transferred to York University Archives from the Thomas A. Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, in 1986.

**Restrictions on Access and Use:** Some access and reproduction restrictions apply. Access is open except for files of letters from Darwina Faessler Moore to Mavor Moore which are closed until the death of Darwina Faessler Moore. Written permission from the literary executor (DRAMAC) is required prior to reproduction of any kind, and requests must be directed to the University Archivist, York University.

**Finding Aid:** Series-level descriptions with corresponding file lists are complete at this time. Individual accession file lists are available separately; see accruals note.

**URL of Finding Aid:** <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000359.htm>

**Accruals:** The fonds comprises the following accessions: 1976-001, 1983-002, 1984-003, 1985-004, 1986-005, 1994-037, 1995-036, 1999-065, 2001-049, 2004-035, 2005-040, 2006-037. Further accruals may be expected.

**Related Records:** See records of the Theatre Department in York University, Faculty of Fine Arts fonds (F0059) for related material. See New Play Society fonds (F0364) for related theatre material. Related records are also available in the Louis Applebaum fonds (F254) and the Norman Campbell fonds (F476).

**Associated Material:** Records of Dora Mavor Moore are located at the Thomas A. Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto.

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Accession 1976-001 was purchased from Mavor Moore in 1976. All subsequent accruals were donated by Mavor Moore between 1983 and 2006, except for accession 1986-005 which was transferred to York University Archives from the Thomas A. Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, in 1986.

**Other Notes:** Audio reels from Accession 2 (1983-002) were transferred to the Sound and Moving Image Library, Scott Library, York University, in 1989.

**Subject Access Points:** New Play Society

**Provenance Access Points:** Moore, Mavor, 1919-2006.  
New Play Society  
Applebaum, Louis, 1918-2000.  
Campbell, Norman, 1924-2004.

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